Anime • Videogames • Manga

Genki Life Magazine

14

冬 2014

Winter

Dec 21-Mar 19

宇宙戦艦ヤマト 2199

SPACE BATTLESHIP YAMATO 2199

Space Battleship Yamato: 2199

The Comikaze Expo Experience!

Winter Conventions

WCS: The Road to Japan

Manga Inside!

COMIKAZE

WCS

Also

Seiyūs of Autumn 2013

Hanasaku Iroha: Home Sweet Home

G-Anime

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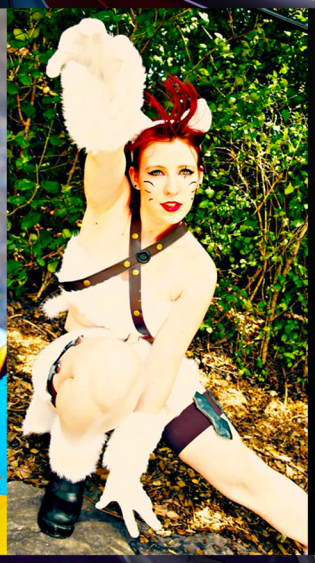

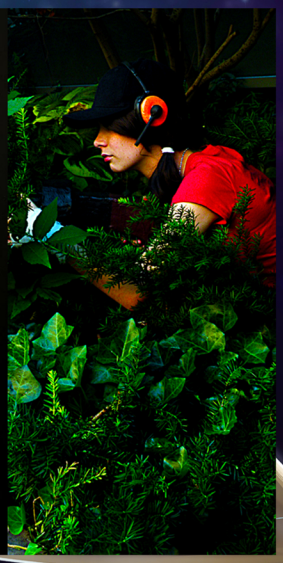

HTTP://WWW.G-ANIME.CA

Picture from/by: Tyler Mann and Kale Lalonde, Kim Harrison, Keagan Leroux, Alexandra Arrowsmith, Emma Clarke

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Issue 14, Winter • December 21, 2013 - March 19, 2014

Genki Life Magazine is published seasonal, quarterly, by *The Genshiken of the Inland Empire* anime club, a subsidiary of *Studio ArtMix: Intelligent Graphic Design*. Subscription of this magazine is free of charge. Please email **glm@studioartmix.com** your request to subscribe to this digital publication as well as any other inquiries about this publication.

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Editor's Note

In a nutshell, this had been a subdued autumn. But where were a few things we did since the crazy summer months. We had a chance to watch one of the most anticipated movies for the autumn season, *Thor: The Dark World*, which was actually pretty good. Bot not as great as one person I know who watched it everyday since the movie premiered. For a convention, we checked out Stan Lee's Comikaze Expo in Los Angeles this past November. I've written about our experiences at the con, so check it out. We had a great time there! On the non-otaku end, there was the Los Angeles Auto Show. Ok, so it had nothing to do with fandom, but it's a nice break to do something different. Funny—it was weird returning to the Los Angeles Convention Center expecting not to see cosplayers. The closest geek thing we saw the was the *Walking Dead* Zombie Apocalypse display in the lobby. We all can't be geeks 24-7 as some would like you to believe.

- Ed Gomez

Graphic Designer
Publisher-Genki Life Magazine, President–GIE

Anime • Videogames • Manga
Genki Life Magazine

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WILLIAM FLISS

&

STEAM CENTURY

花咲くいろは HOME SWEET HOME

BLOSSOMS FOR TOMORROW

We often look at movie spin-offs as unnecessary, thoughtless, and maybe even a little bit greedy. Do we really need another addition to an already concluded story? Not usually. There's an undeniable sense of indifference whenever we hear that a spin-off movie has been greenlit, and who can blame us when "movie" often simply means "bad adaptation with a couple new scenes".

Hanasaku Iroha: Home Sweet Home is not one of those movies, but do still keep your expectations in check before digging in. Most of what was frustrating about the main series remains here.

Taking place somewhere in the time-frame of the TV series (no indication is really given as to when), *Home Sweet Home* decides to show us a little bit more of an oft neglected character: Ohana's mother, Satsuki. While cleaning one of the inn's storage rooms, Ohana happens upon a set of diaries from her mother, telling the story of Satsuki's rebellious teenage years to the birth of Ohana. We see in greatest detail how Satsuki met Ohana's father, but the message is never in the story itself - it's how it relates to Ohana's own struggles. Like mother, like daughter, or so they say.

Blossoms For Tomorrow: Home Sweet Home
(Hanasaku Iroha: Home Sweet Home)
花咲くいろは Home Sweet Home
Movie • March 30, 2013
P.A. Works

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hanasaku_Iroha
www.hanasakuiroha.jp

Director: Ando, Masahiro
Music: Hamaguchi, Shirō
Writer: Okada, Mari

Cast:
Matsumae, Ohana = Itō, Kanae
Tsurugi, Minko = Chiaki Omigawa
Oshimizu, Nako = Toyosaki, Aki
Wakura, Yuina = Tomatsu, Haruka

There's an inherent sense of maturity to *Home Sweet Home* that was not present in the TV series. We see the beauty of childbirth (reminiscent of Mamoru Hosoda's "Wolf Children") and the toils of an adolescent girl trying to find adulthood in a world alien to her. Growing up has always been the central theme of the series, but the movie achieves it with much more clarity than the TV series. Few stories evolve the conflict beyond existential angst and into parenthood. There is a reason for us to care this time, and there is finally a message to be drawn by the end of the story, unlike the ambiguous "Huuuh?" of before.

Being a product of P.A. Works, of course, it is impeded by melodrama. Plenty of screaming, crying, and more screaming for your hearing pleasure. Why do they always do this? Home Sweet Home is a better story than that. I understand that it is mainly a story about teenage girls, but come on, you can convey emotion through thoughtful dialogue instead of this nonsense. It doesn't always have to be two characters screaming at each other. It's a shame that an otherwise intelligent story had to be bogged down this way.

The biggest problem however is that Satsuki's story only takes up about one-third of the overall story. Ohana, Minko and the rest of the inn are often given the spotlight instead for whatever reason. This naturally creates issues when the runtime of the movie is just 60 minutes. Large sequences of time are skipped by in a flash, numerous questions are left unanswered, and we never do fully understand the relationship between Satsuki and Ohana's father. Why does she fall in love with him so quickly? And why is an adult like him even interested in a high schooler suffering from a severe case of teen angst? Who really knows. Maybe we could have if the movie didn't spend its time on irrelevant subplots.

I just have to wonder, why? Ohana and the rest of the inn already had plenty of focus in the main series. It's merely a repetition of what we have already seen. The worst offender is the Nako subplot, based on her issues at home and relationship with her siblings. One of her sisters runs away at random, generating us ten minutes of the inn screaming and searching for her, only to end with the tired message of "Nako is mature". The audience knows that already. It is verbatim. Why not show us something new about the character, or instead spend that time developing the relationship between Satsuki and Ohana's father?

There was plenty of potential here for something great and in the end it is pushed aside for the familiar. I don't understand why it had to be this way. The audio-visual quality fares much better. Even when it's only "pretty good" by *Hanasaku Iroha* standards, it still looks better than many animated films released these days. The lighting and reflections are the art's greatest asset as they often have the ability to enhance the story itself (one particular scene has Satsuki's confused face mirrored in the bus that her love interest is leaving in). The animation is merely serviceable, however, and distant shots will often have the characters drawn without a face. This laziness feels especially out of place when contrasted with the beautiful backgrounds.

As for the sound, while I can't imagine there will be anything to stand out in anyone's memory, there is a certain beauty to the background music when one listens closely. There's a subtle sense of melancholy to each piece, never relying on loud, sappy music to make the audience feel something. It makes the quieter moments all the more powerful, and these quiet moments are unequivocally the strongest piece of the experience.

At the end of the day, is *Home Sweet Home* worth your time? Certainly. If you had problems with the TV series, there is nothing here to change your mind in any significant way (there may just be more melodrama than before), but at only 60 minutes long it's hard to go wrong with more Hanasaku Iroha. It's just unfortunate that P.A. Works decided to play it safe for the fans instead of trying for more. Is that so much to ask for? I don't believe so. ❖ Veronin

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www.alcon.org.uk

London Anime Con, Feb & June
www.londonanimecon.com

Cosrave across UK throughout year
www.cosrave.co.uk

For enquiries email info@animeleague.com

Convention Schedule

Winter 2014

Comic Fiesta
December 21-22, 2013
Kuala Lumpur
Convention Centre
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
www.comicfiesta.org

Anime Apocalypse
December 27-29, 2013
Best Western Clock Tower Resort
Rockford, IL
www.animeapocalypse.org

Anime South
December 27-29, 2013
Hampton Inn Pensacola Beach
Pensacola, FL
www.animesouth.com

Ikkicon
December 27-29, 2013
Hilton Austin
Austin, TX
www.ikkicon.com

Newcon PDX
December 27-29, 2013
Crowne Plaza Portland
Downtown Convention Center
Portland, OR
www.newconpdx.com

Tampa Anime Day
December 28, 2013
Embassy Suites Tampa - Brandon
Tampa, FL
tampa.animeday.net

Comic Market
December 29-31, 2013
Tokyo Big Sight
Tokyo, Japan
www.comiket.co.jp

VGC XIII
January 3-4
Bellarmine Jefferson High School
Burbank, CA
www.vgcx.org

Anime-Zap!
January 3-5
Embassy Suites East
Peoria - Hotel & Riverfront
Conference Center
East Peoria, IL
www.animezapcon.com

Evil Con
January 3-5
Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay
Tampa, FL
www.evilconventions.com

Otakon Vegas
January 3-5
Planet Hollywood
Resort and Casino, Las Vegas, NV
www.otakonvegas.com

Sac-Anime
January 3-5
Sacramento Convention Center
Sacramento, CA
www.sacconventions.com

Sukoshicon: Destination Anime
January 3-5
Emerald Coast Convention Center
Fort Walton Beach, FL
www.destinationanime.com

Taiyou Con
January 3-5
Hilton Phoenix East in Mesa
Mesa, AZ
www.taiyoucon.com

Jacksonville Anime Day
January 5
Embassy Suites Jacksonville -
Baymeadows, Jacksonville, FL
www.jacksonville.animeday.net

Ichibancon
January 9-12
Embassy Suites Concord
Concord, NC
www.ichibancon.com

KotoriCon
January 10-11
Gloucester County College
Sewell, NJ
anime.gccnj.edu

Ahn!Con
January 10-12
Ramada Conference Center
Kansas City
Kansas City, MO
www.ahn-con.com

Animé Los Angeles
January 10-12
Los Angeles Airport Marriott
Los Angeles, CA
www.animelosangeles.org/ala/

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.

Convention Schedule

Winter 2014 *Continued*

Illogicon
January 10-12
Embassy Suites Raleigh/Durham
NC/ RTP
Raleigh, NC
www.illogicon.com

Akumakon
January 17-19
National University of Ireland
Galway, Ireland
www.akumakon.com

Animate! Miami
January 17-19
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
Miami Airport
& Convention Center
Miami, FL
www.animatemiami.com

Arisia
January 17-20
Westin Boston Waterfront
Boston, MA
2014.arisia.org

Iron Throne
January 17-19
The Palace Hotel
Manchester, UK
www.epicconventions.com

SwampCon
January 18-19
University of Florida, J. Wayne
Reitz Student Union
Gainesville, FL
www.swampcon.com

G-Anime
January 24-26
Palais des congrès de Gatineau
Gatineau, Quebec
ganime.ca

Ohayocon
January 24-26
Greater Columbus
Convention Center
Columbus, OH
www.ohayocon.org

Photo by T. Brillo

Chattacon
January 24-26
Chattanooga Choo Choo
Chattanooga, TN
www.chattacon.org/drupal/

AOD (Anime on Display)
January 25-26
Hyatt Regency
San Francisco Airport
Burlingame, CA
www.aodsf.org

Setsucon
January 25-26
Penn Stater Conference Center
Hotel, State College, PA
www.setsucon.com

A Taste of Animethon
January 31 - February 1
Ramada Conference
Centre Edmonton
Edmonton, Alberta
www.animethon.org

Ushicon
February 7-8
Wingate by Wyndham Hotel
& Conference Center
Round Rock, TX
www.ushicon.com/home/

AlmaCon
February 7-9
Alma College, Alma, MI
www.almaconmi.com

Kawa Kon
February 7-9
Millennium Hotel St. Louis
St. Louis, MO
www.kawakon.com

AniManga Pop!
February 8
Holiday Inn Plymouth
Plymouth, UK
www.fantasyevents.org

London Anime Con
February 8-9
London Metropolitan University,
The Rocket Complex
London, UK
www.londonanimecon.com

Capricon
February 6-9
Westin Chicago North Shore
Wheeling, IL
www.capricon.org/capricon34/

Anime Milwaukee
February 14-16
Hyatt Regency Milwaukee/
Delta Center, Milwaukee, WI
www.animemilwaukee.com

Genericon
February 14-16
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Troy, NY
genericon.union.rpi.edu/wordpress/

Kami-Con
February 14-16
Birmingham-Jefferson
Convention Complex
Birmingham, AL
www.kamicon.net

Katsucon
February 14-16
Gaylord National Resort
& Convention Center
National Harbor, MD
www.katsucon.org

TexanCon
February 14-16
Tarleton State University
Stephenville, TX
www.texancon.com

Tsukino-Con
February 14-16
University of Victoria -
ECS Building
Victoria, British Columbia
www.tsukinocon.com

Farpoint Convention
February 14-16
Crowne Plaza Baltimore North
Timonium, MD
www.farpointcon.com

Gallifrey One
February 14-16
Los Angeles Airport Marriott
Los Angeles, CA
www.gallifreyone.com

Sukoshicon: Bowling Green
February 15
Holiday Inn University Plaza-
Bowling Green, Bowling Green, KY
sukoshicon.com/bowling_green/

Tsunacon
February 16
Erasmus Expo & Congrescentrum
Rotterdam, The Netherlands
www.tsunacon.nl

Con-G
February 21-23
Delta Hotel & Conference
Centre, Guelph, Ontario
www.con-g.com

Pensacon
February 21-23
Crowne Plaza Pensacola Grand
Pensacola, FL
www.facebook.com/Pensacon

MystiCon
February 21-23
Tanglewood Holiday Inn
Roanoke, VA
www.mysticon-va.com

Zipcon
February 22
University of Akron
Akron, OH
www.zipcon.weebly.com

NWI Comic-Con
February 23
Villa Cesare
Schererville, IN
www.nwi-comic-con.com

Animeland Wasabi
February 28 - March 2
Crowne Plaza Denver
International Airport
Denver, CO
www.animelandwasabi.com

Ring of Fire Con
February 28 - March 2
Holiday Inn Virginia Beach -
Norfolk, Virginia Beach, VA
www.rofcon.com

Bear-Con
February 28-March 2
SUNY Potsdam Campus
Potsdam, NY
www2.potsdam.edu/bearcon/default.htm

Quinni-Con
March 1-2
Quinnipiac University York Hill
Campus, Hamden, CT
www.quinni-con.com

WAI-Con
March 1-2
Perth Convention Exhibition
Centre, Perth, WA Australia
www.wai-con.org

Sac-Con
March 2
Scottish Rite Center
Sacramento, CA
www.sac-con.com

Minami Con
March 7-9
Novotel Hotel
Southampton, UK
www.minamicon.org.uk

Newcastle Film & Comic Con
March 8-9
Metro Radio Arena
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK
www.newcastlefilmandcomic-con.com

Tora-Con
March 8-9
Rochester Institute of
Technology, Rochester, NY
www.rit.edu/clubs/toracon/

Naka-Kon
March 14-15
Overland Park Convention
Center, Overland Park, KS
www.naka-kon.com

Anime Matsuri
March 14-16
George R. Brown Convention
Center
Houston, TX
www.animematsuri.com

Anime Boston
March 21-23
Hynes Convention Center
Boston, MA
www.animeboston.com

Con-nichiwa
March 21-23
Tucson Convention Center
Tucson, AZ
www.con-nichiwa.com

Photo by T. Brillo

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Convention Schedule

Winter 2014 *Continued*

Kitsune Kon
March 21-23
Radisson Paper Valley Hotel
Appleton, WI
www.kitsunekon.com/blog/

MegaCon
March 21-23
Orange County
Convention Center
Orlando, FL
www.megaconvention.com

Vericon
March 21-23
Harvard University
Cambridge, MA
www.vericon.org

Animarathon
March 22
Bowling Green State University
Bowling Green, OH
www.animarathon.com

Mizuumi-Con
March 22
Our Lady of the Lake University
San Antonio, TX
www.mizuumicon.org

Shobou Con
March 22
Greenbrier Library
Chesapeake, VA
www.shoboucon.wordpress.com

AnimeJapan
March 22-23
Tokyo Big Sight, Tokyo, Japan
www.anime-japan.jp

Conbust
March 28-30
Smith College (Seelye Hall)
Northampton, MA
sophia.smith.edu/conbust/

EvilleCon
March 28-30
Clarion Inn, Evansville, IN
www.evillecon.com

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J-Popcon
March 28-30
DGI-byen
Copenhagen, Denmark
www.j-popcon.dk/da/

Kaizokucon
March 28-30
University College Cork
Cork, Ireland
www.kaizokucon.com

Kitacon
March 28-30
Hilton Birmingham
Metropole Hotel
Birmingham, UK
www.kitacon.org

Jaycon
March 29-30
Elizabethtown College
Elizabethtown, PA
www.jaycon.weebly.com

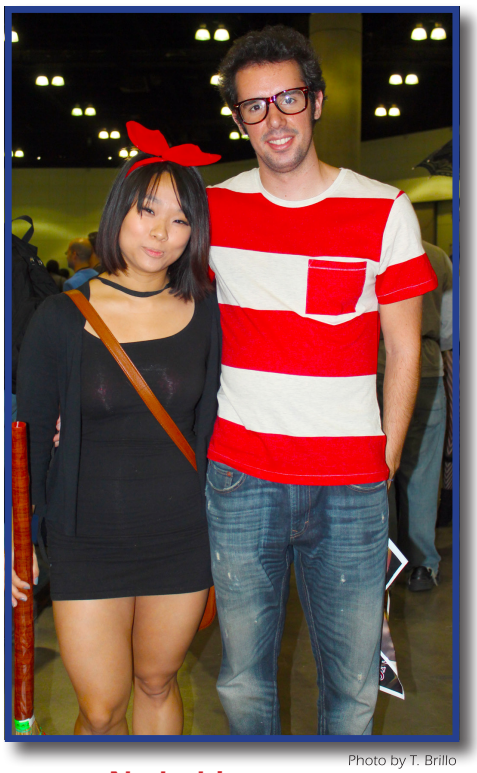

Photo by T. Brillo

A&G
April 4-6
Northern Kentucky Convention
Center, Covington, KY
www.cartooncon.org

Anime Detour
April 4-6
DoubleTree by Hilton
Bloomington Minneapolis South
Bloomington, MN
www.animedetour.com

Kawaii Kon
April 4-6
Hawaii Convention Center
Honolulu, HI
www.kawaii-kon.org

Nadeshicon
April 4-6
Université Laval
Quebec City, Quebec
www.nadeshicon.ca

Shuto Con
April 4-6
Lansing Convention Center
Lansing, MI
www.shutocon.com

Tekkoshocon
April 4-6
David L. Lawrence
Convention Center
Pittsburgh, PA
www.tekkoshocon.com

ONE OK ROCK

Club Nokia
Los Angeles, CA
02.07.2014

Best Buy Theater
New York, NY
02.09.2014

For More Info

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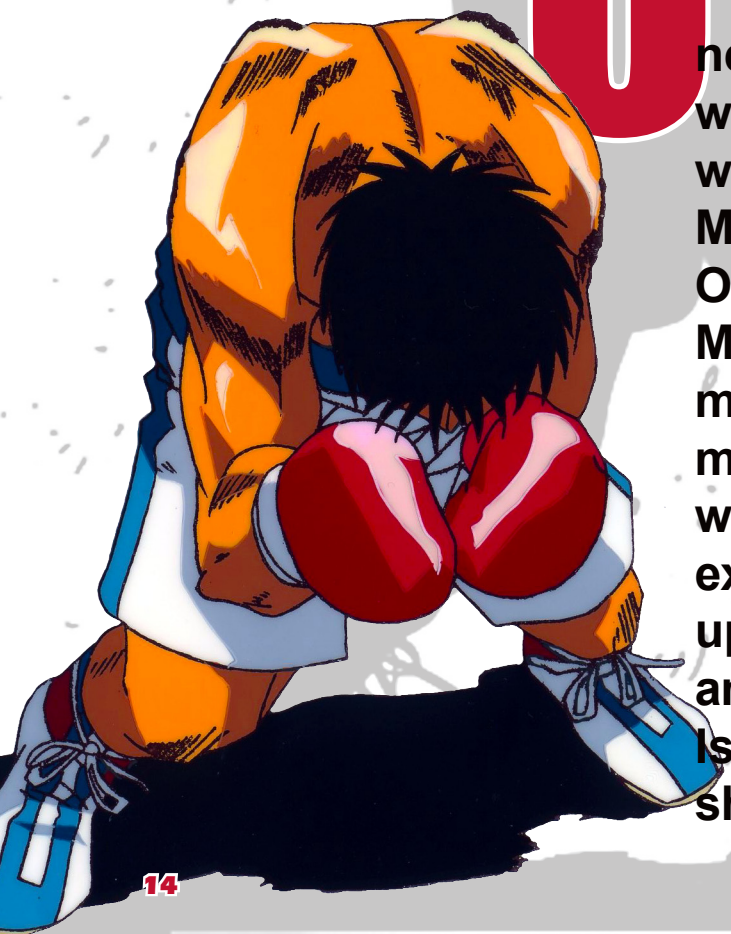
はじめの一歩

THE FIGHTING!

Anime Soon Becoming Legend:

HAJIME no IPPO



One of the most exciting sports in the world to watch is boxing. Many legends were created from this sport such as Mahammad Ali, Sugar Ray Leonard, Oscar De La Hoya, Mike Tyson and Manny Pacquiao. Recently, boxing matches had lost a little of its excitement due to favoritism from judges which is unfair. To bring back the excitement in the sport is another upcoming star trying to aim high and proving himself: Ippo Makunouchi. Is the path of being a boxer Ippo should have taken?

Hajime no Ippo
はじめの一歩 THE FIGHTING!
TV • October 3, 2000 - ongoing (3 Seasons)
Madhouse • Geneon

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hajime_no_Ippo
www.vap.co.jp/ippo/
www.ntv.co.jp/ippo/

Director: Nishimura, Satoshi
Shishido, Jun
Writer: Urahata, Tatsuhiko
Fudeyasu, Kazuyuki
Music: Imahori, Tsuneo
Hirano, Yoshihisa · Taniuchi, Hideki

Cast:
Makunouchi, Ippo = Kiyasu, Kōhei
Takamura, Mamoru = Koyama, Rikiya
Aoki, Masaru = Takagi, Wataru
Kimura, Tatsuya = Keiji Fujiwara, Keiji

Ippo is a 16 year old timid senior in high school who no one paid attention to and was bullied constantly. His family owns a fishing charter boat that takes fishermen out to sea to fish. Ippo lives with his mother and helps out by loading the boat for every fishing trip that is scheduled before going to school. With his constant help of loading the boat, Ippo has gained extra muscle strength that would take two or more people to do the work. He believes that he is a weak person and cannot stand up for himself which leads him to get picked on constantly.

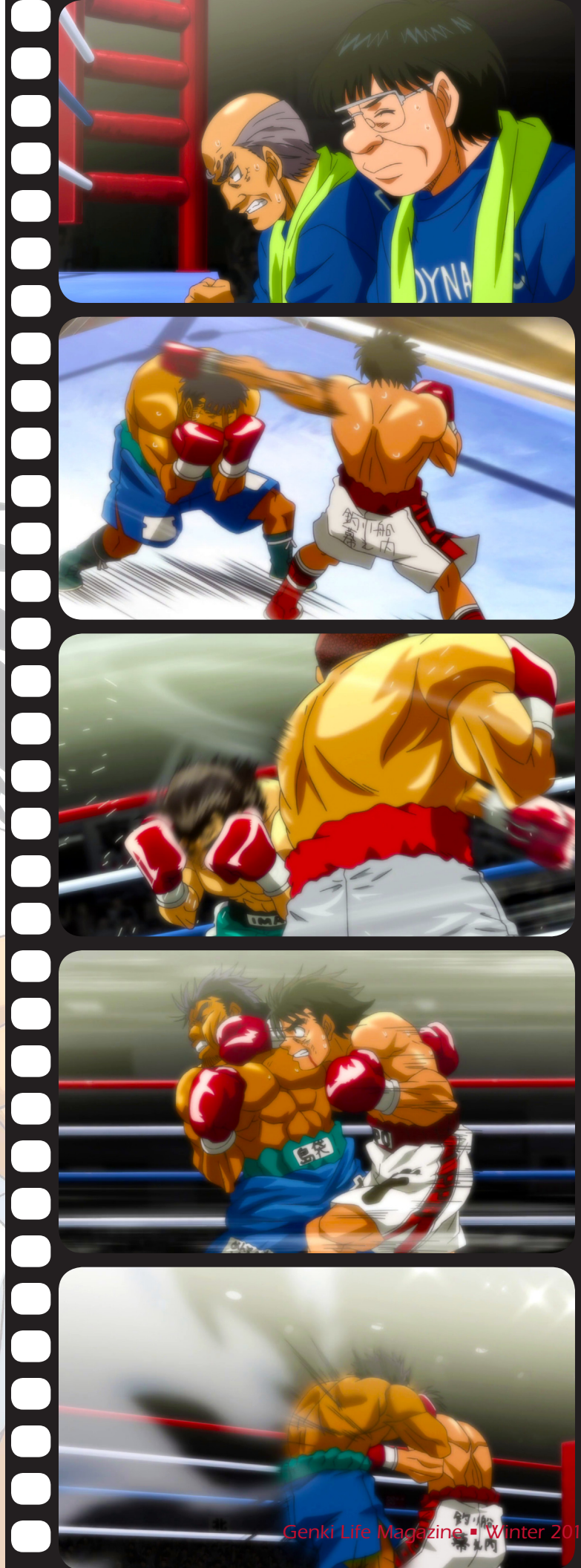
One day, Ippo was taken by his bully, Umezawa, under a bridge where no one can see them. Ippo was beaten up and was on the ground. A person was running by, Takamura, saw what was going on and walked towards them. The bullies left afraid after trying to beat up the runner who dodged all of their punches. Ippo takes one glance at his savior and passed out in the runner's hands.

As Ippo rested, he was taken care of by Takamura who takes him back to his gym. Ippo wakes up and realizes that the loud noise that woke him up was a boxing gym. Takamura gave Ippo some pointers how to throw a proper punch. Ippo tries the punch and showed how much power he has which amazes Takamura. Ippo still lacked confidence to confront people instead of standing up for himself.

To give Ippo courage to be confident with himself, Takamura lets him borrow a couple of tapes with boxing matches. Takamura thinks that by showing Ippo about boxing, there is more than just brawling another person. As Ippo goes home, he watches the tapes shrugging at how people got punched but later sees how boxers are after the fights. Ippo then decides to change his life, to be reborn as a new person: To become a pro boxer.

This anime is very exciting and worth watching. It teaches a bit about the sport of boxing, fundamentals, and a look into what challenges some boxers have to go through. The fights are very entertaining and well drawn, it feels like watching an actual live match. Even though boxing and training are very serious in the story, there is plenty of comedy from the pranks they do to Ippo mostly and to each other.

The road Ippo has picked is an experience to watch because it takes a young man who lacked confidence in everyday life to being one of the greatest boxers in Japan. Ippo pushes himself beyond his limits and still continues to find the answer to "What does it mean to be strong?" The series is still continuing into the third season with "Hajime No Ippo: Rising." If you are tired of bad judges and what seems like favoritism in real boxing, then switch over to this anime. This will revitalize you back into the excitement of what boxing used to be, someone being on the ground, and K.O.'d! ❖ **Yukimura82**



Anime Schedule 2014 Winter Season

Strange+

ストレンジ・プラス

Dream Creation ✦ January 2 ✦ Teletama

www.dreamcreation.co.jp/stpl/

Kō comes to a slum neighborhood in search of his elder brother Takumi and finds him to have become the head of a private detective firm. Kō is drafted by Takumi to do errands and chores in the detective firm, and they come to meet various interesting people…

Robot Girls Z

ロボットガールズZ

Toei Animation ✦ January 4 ✦ Toei Channel

www.dreamcreation.co.jp/stpl/ ✦ youtu.be/yCY-M2RdE_g

The story revolves around a new team of "Toei robot girls" named "Team Z" that is made up of three girls based on Toei's Mazinger Z franchise: *Mazinger Z*, *Great Mazinger*, and *UFO Robot Grendizer*. Usually they perform in activities around Nerima ward in Tokyo to raise the awareness of the promising future energy source "Photon Power." However, there are times when "Mechanical Beast" team of girls emerge from the "Subterranean Empire" and attempt to steal the energy.

Seitokai Yakuindomo* (Student Council Staff Members 2)

生徒会役員共*

GoHands ✦ January 4 ✦ AT-X

www.starchild.co.jp/special/seitokai/

Tsuda Takatoshi is about to begin his first year in Ōsai Academy. His decision to enter Ōsai was based upon it being close to his home and he paid no heed to the fact he'd be among the first boys to enter the recently gender-integrated school. Second season.

Air dates and info are subject to change without notice. Some shows could appear on other channels on different times and days.

Anime Schedule 2014 Winter

Saikin, Imōto no Yōsu ga Chotto Okashiinda ga. (Lately, My Little Sister Has Been a Bit Strange)

最近、妹のようすがちょっとおかしいんだが。

project No.9 ✦ January 4 ✦ Tokyo MX

imocyo-anime.com

High school girl, Kanzaki Mitsuki, just got a new older brother when her mother remarries. Soon after, her new step dad gets transferred overseas and her mother follows him there, leaving Mitsuki alone with her new step brother, Yūya. She stays distant from Yūya, never really getting along very well with him nor even keeping a conversation with him… until one day…

Buddy Complex

バディ・コンプレックス

Sunrise ✦ January 5 ✦ Tokyo MX

buddy-complex.jp ✦ youtu.be/t_Y5PEEmwQw

The story will revolve around the friendship and coming-of-age of two boys. It begins with Aoba Watase, a boy who goes to high school in Tōkyō and lives a carefree daily life. On the morning of his school's opening ceremony after summer vacation, he goes to campus as usual, but he has a chance encounter with another boy named Junyō Dio Weinberg.

Future Card Buddyfight

フューチャーカード バディファイト

OLM / Xebec ✦ January 5 ✦ TV Tokyo

fc-buddyfight.com/en/ ✦ youtu.be/DdlFHq_xX3c

The story takes place in a far away future, where "Buddyfight" is a popular card game. The game summons monsters from 'another world' (humans and monsters learn to work together). There are schools that teach Buddyfight strategies instead of regular classes. Gao Mikado is a regular attendee of the buddyfight school, and is the likewise, selfish tough-guy at the school. His life all changes when he meets Drum Bunker Dragon (who Gao nicknamed 'Drum').

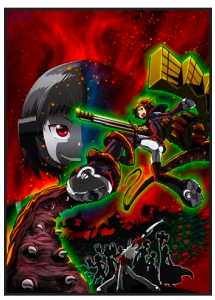
Minna Atsumare! Falcom Gakuen

みんな集まれ！ファルコム学園

DAX Production ✦ January 5 ✦ Tokyo MX

www.fal-gaku.com

The story of the four panel manga begins when the world is invaded by game developer Nihon Falcom's RPG characters, including characters from *Ys*, *Sorcerian* and *Eiyū Densetsu Shikkusu Sora no Kiseki* (*The Legend of Heroes: Trails in The Sky*). The characters come together in a crazy academy life in celebration of the game maker's 30th anniversary.



NobunaGun

ノブナガン

Bridge ✦ January 5 ✦ Tokyo MX

www.vap.co.jp/nobunagun/ ✦ youtu.be/Q-kKY-qMews

Shio Ogura is a Japanese high school student, who is visiting Taiwan on a school trip when she is suddenly attacked by monsters. Agents known as "E-Gene Holders" from the government agency DOGOO also arrive, who wield weapons infused with the spirits of historical figures. Shio is revealed to also be an E-Gene Holder when the soul of Oda Nobunaga awakens after she tries to rescue a friend.

Season *Continued*

Noragami

ノラガミ

Bones ✦ January 5 ✦ Tokyo MX

noragami-anime.net ✦ youtu.be/gpFjMtWTmsY

"A god who can, with a sword, clear sentences." In the human world, there is a god who can penetrate into the heart of them. When you are sad, when you are tired, if you look up to heaven, we can see a telephone number. But it is important not to call! If we call, a boy stands in front of you dislike and say "Delighted, I am God." If it happens to you, what would you do?

Saki: Zenkoku-hen

咲-Saki-全国編

Studio Gokumi ✦ January 5 ✦ TV Tokyo

www.saki-anime.com

Saki Miyanaga, a high school first-year student, does not like mahjong because her family would always force her to play it and punish her regardless of the outcome of the game. She learned how to keep her score at zero, neither winning nor losing, a skill said to be more difficult than actually consistently winning. Her friend from middle school, completely unaware of such circumstances, convinces her to visit the school's small mahjong club upon entering into high school. Third season.

Space☆Dandy

スペース☆ダンディ

Bones ✦ January 5 ✦ Tokyo MX

space-dandy.com ✦ youtu.be/QvrgMnPogKc

This dreamy adventurer with a to-die-for pompadour travels across the galaxy in search of aliens no one has ever laid eyes on. Each new species he discovers earns him a hefty reward, but this dandy has to be quick on his feet because it's first come, first served! Accompanied by his sidekicks, a rundown robot named QT and Meow the cat-looking space alien, Dandy bravely explores unknown worlds inhabited by a variety of aliens.

Tonari no Seki-kun

となりの関くん

Shin-Ei Animation ✦ January 5 ✦ TV Tokyo

www.t-sekikun.jp ✦ youtu.be/7ufd8z0F0Uk

The boy who sits next to Yokoi in class, Seki-kun, is always up to something at his desk. He manages to somehow play very elaborate games without attracting the teacher's attention. From dominos, to shogi, to go, to mecha models, to playing with cats and more, he always has something new to do. Yokoi often finds herself getting reluctantly interested in his games, even though they always seem to end up getting HER in trouble with the teacher!

Air dates and info are subject to change without notice. Some shows could appear on other channels on different times and days.

Anime Schedule 2014 Winter

Witch Craft Works

ウィッチクラフトワークス

J.C.Staff • January 5 • Tokyo MX

www.witch-cw-anime.jp • youtu.be/Pq4fPH-It5g

Takamiya Honoka is a regular student whose only problem seems to be that he sits next to Kagari Ayaka, the school's #1 beauty. They have never spoken to each other before and any small interaction between them immediately results in her fanclub beating him. Yet when a falling part of the school's building is about to send him to the afterlife, it's Kagari that comes to his rescue. Only… she's dressed as a witch, carrying him in her arms and floating on a broom?!

D-Frag! (D-Fragments)

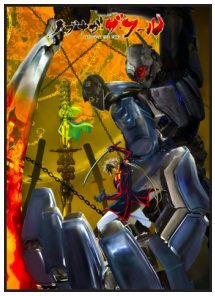
ディーふらぐ！

Brain's Base • January 6 • TV Tokyo

www.d-fragments.net

Kazama Kenji likes to believe he is something of a delinquent. Moreover, others seem to like to agree that he is. Of course, Kenji's gang finds their way to a group of four not-so-normal girls—Chitose, Sakura, Minami and Ruka—and all at once, whatever reputation he may have is nothing compared to the outrageous behavior of the girls. Shanghaied into joining their club, what will happen to his everyday life from that point on?

Season *Continued*



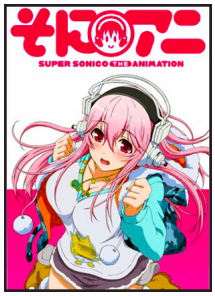
Nobunaga the Fool

ノブナガ・ザ・フール

Satelight ✦ January 6 ✦ TV Tokyo

www.nobunaga.tv

A girl from the Western Planet, Jeanne Kaguya d'Arc, saw heavenly visions of the birth of a "Star Messiah" who will save the world. She embarks on a journey to the Eastern Planet with Leonardo da Vinci, "the one who observes the world." They come across the heretic of the Eastern Planet and "the greatest fool of the day," Oda Nobunaga.



SoniAni: Super Sonico The Animation

そにアニ -SUPER SONICO THE ANIMATION-

White Fox ✦ January 6 ✦ AT-X / Tokyo MX

soniani.jp ✦ youtu.be/d467Knc-kO4

Sonico is depicted as a moe-type, busty teenage girl with pink-coloured hair, donning her signature headphones. Various different artists choose to depict her in their own specific style, whilst generally keeping her most trademark traits, namely her headphones, hair color and large bust. She plays the role of a gravure idol, musician, college student, is canonically 18 years of age and is the vocalist and guitarist of the fictional band First Cosmic Velocity.

To Aru Hikūshi e no Koi-Uta (Love Song of a Certain Pilot)

とある飛空士への恋歌

TMS Entertainment ✦ January 6 ✦ Tokyo MX

koiuta.tv

The story of love and aerial combat follows a former prince who lost everything to a revolution, and a girl who became the symbol for the revolution. The orphaned prince, now renamed Kal-el Albus, embarks on a one-way journey to discover the ends of the heavens. Aboard the levitating island of Isura, he meets a girl named Claire.

Hamatora

ハマトラ THE ANIMATION

NAZ ✦ January 7 ✦ TV Tokyo

hamatorapj.com/animation.html ✦ youtu.be/LQ0FdejcFf0

Partners Nice and Murasaki form a detective agency called "Hamatora" in Yokohama in 2014—but their "office" is a table at Cafe Nowhere where they and their friends wait for clients. An old acquaintance of theirs, a cop named Art, hires them for a serial murder case he is investigating, and they discover that the murder victims are all "Minimum Holders." As Minimum Holders themselves, Nice and Murasaki are drawn into this case, whether they like it or not.

Chūnibyō Demo Koi ga Shitai! Ren (Even With Eighth Grader Syndrome, I Want to Be in Love 2)

中二病でも恋がしたい！戀

Kyoto Animation ✦ January 8 ✦ Tokyo MX

www.anime-chu-2.com ✦ youtu.be/JMPVhBLUwNY

Yūta and Rikka are living together. This secret co-habitation is so exciting for the two lovebirds! Is having a "chūni" girlfriend too high of a hurdle for Yūta, who never even went out with a normal girl?! Yūta worries about how to advance his relationship with Rikka. Furthermore, the girl who calls herself Sophia Ring Saturn the 7th, Satone Shichimiya appears… Second season.

Air dates and info are subject to change without notice. Some shows could appear on other channels on different times and days.

Anime Schedule 2014 Winter

Onē-chan ga Kita (My Big Sister Arrived)

お姉ちゃんが来た

C2C • January 8 • Tokyo MX

www.takeshobo.co.jp/sp/tv_oneechan/

The story revolves around Tomoya Mizuhara, a 13-year-old boy who suddenly gains a big sister when his father remarries. 17-year-old Ichika is a little strange, and her affection for Tomoya is rather overwhelming, if not scary. On top of things, Ichika's friend Ruri is the ultimate sadist. Then there is Ichika's big-breasted quarter-Japanese friend Marina.

Yōkai Watch

妖怪ウォッチ

Oriental Light and Magic • January 8 • TV Tokyo

www.youkai-watch.jp/topics/release.html

The storyline of the game goes about Keita who discovers at one hot summer day an old capsule toy vending machine in the forest. Keita receives a mysterious watch which he meets a ghost butler with the name Whisper. Whisper tells Keita that the watch allows him to see supernatural creatures that he could never see before in a everyday life. Keita alongside with Whisper and his companion Kabanya explorers his town to search for other ghosts to battle.

Gin no Saji 2 (Silver Spoon ~ Season 2)

銀の匙2

A-1 Pictures • January 9 • Fuji TV

www.ginsaji-anime.com

Yūgo Hachiken dreams of life separated from his family, so he takes the initiative by enrolling in an agriculture school. He thinks, with his talent in studying, no problems will arise no matter what kind of school he attends. Raised as a city boy, he is forced to uncover the inconvenient truth about agricultural life. Enjoy the story of Yūgo, as he tries to keep up with his new friends, farmers' heirs, who are already accustomed to the harsh world of farming. Second season.

Go! Go! 575

ゴ～！ゴ～！ご～しちご～

C2C • January 9 • Tokyo MX

gogo575.sega.jp

About a cute young girl named Kokoa who shows up at the "Rabbit House" cafe one day excited to see the rabbits. From that point she all but permanently resides in the cafe where she meets many new friends including: Chino, a tiny but "cool" girl; Lize, a tough-as-nails girl; Chiyo, a young Japanese girl who often spaces out, and; Sharo, a dignified and altogether ordinary girl.

Hōzuki no Reitetsu (Cool-headed Hoozuki)

鬼灯の冷徹

Wit Studio • January 9 • MBS

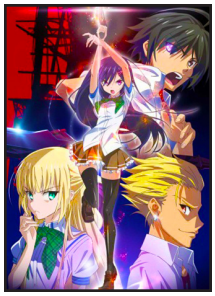
www.hozukino-reitetsu.com • youtu.be/VZZHTHUWcL0

Hōzuki is a deputy of Yama, king of hell and judge of the afterlife and a super "S." This is a daily life of Hōzuki and his people.

Season

Air dates and info are subject to change without notice. Some shows could appear on other channels on different times and days.

Anime Schedule 2014 Winter



Mahō Sensō (Magical Warfare)

魔法戦争

Madhouse ✦ January 9 ✦ TBS

www.tbs.co.jp/anime/mahosen/ ✦ youtu.be/h24ESqimig0

Takeshi Nanase is a normal high school student with a slightly traumatic past. For some reason, he is going out with his childhood friend, Kurumi Isoshima, but otherwise, he's a pretty normal guy. One day, however, he sees a girl wearing a uniform he had never seen before, who had collapsed on his school grounds. She is Mui Aiba and her appearance marks the beginning to a series of weird incidents. She once said, "to be honest, I'm a magic user and sorry…I turned you into one too."

Mikakunin de Shinkōkei (Unconfirmed & In-Progress)

未確認で進行形

Dogakobo ✦ January 9 ✦ AT-X

mikakunin.jp ✦ youtu.be/5F14JWnYSwM

Kobeni Yonomi, an ordinary girl, finds out on her 16th birthday that she is betrothed to Hakuya Mitsumine, a boy the same age as her. Hakuya moves in from the countryside and starts living with her, bringing his younger sister who is still a primary school student with him. Also added is his older sister who is already living with Kobeni and is two years older.

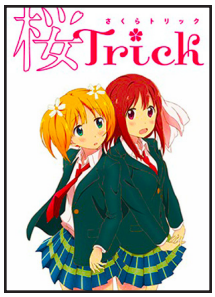
pupa

ピューパ

Studio Deen ✦ January 9 ✦ Tokyo MX

www.pupa-anime.com ✦ youtu.be/bTsUfCeQB2o

A horror anime about siblings Utsutsu and Yume Hasegawa have been living all on their own. One day, Yume sees red butterflies and something strange happens to her body! As the siblings are toyed with by "Pupa," so begins their tale of heroic love.



Sakura Trick

桜Trick

Studio Deen ✦ January 9 ✦ TBS

www.tbs.co.jp/anime/sakura/

Haruka Takayama and Yū Sonoda were inseparable during their junior high school years, but upon entering their senior high school, they end up being seated on opposite sides of the classroom. Having to spend time with more friends, the two decide to do something to make their relationship special.

Z/X: Ignition (Zillions of Enemy X Ignition)

ゼクスイグニッシオン

Pony Canyon ✦ January 9 ✦ TV Tokyo

zxignition.tv ✦ youtu.be/ZLG4HRDfiFM

The story is set in the near future, when five "Black Points" suddenly appear around the world as portals to parallel worlds. Strange creatures immediately begin their invasion of our world through these portals. The invasion forces fight each other to ensure their own survival, with the key to the battle being a single card-shaped device.

Season *Continued*

Nōrin (No-Rin)

のうりん

Silver Link • January 10 • Tokyo MX

www.no-rin.tv • youtu.be/1Dhxhd8JWJY

When the national idol Yuka Kusakabe suddenly retired from the entertainment business, it shocked the world and it devastated teenager Kosaku Hata. Kosaku was Yuka's biggest fan and her departure left him depressed. His classmates at the Tamo Agriculture School finally are able to get him to leave his room and attend his class, but to everyone's amazement, Yuka (her stage name) comes into the class under the name Kinoshita Ringo as a transfer student.

Wake Up, Girls!

Ordet / Tatsunoko Production • January 10 • TV Tokyo

wakeupgirls.jp • youtu.be/eVI8CGAMbYQ

Green Leaves Entertainment is a small production company based in Sendai which at one point managed the careers of magicians, actors and other big names in the entertainment industry. Business has, however, not been good of late, and their last client left them talentless and in danger of shutting down. The company president hatches a plan to create and manage an idol group, and his manager, Matsuda, reluctantly sets out to scout some new talent.

Nisekoi (Fake Love)

ニセコイ

SHAFT • January 11 • Tokyo MX

www.nisekoi.jp

As a child, Raku Ichijō made a secret promise with his childhood sweetheart, keeping a pendant as a memento while his love took the key. He dreams of one day meeting his past love, but years later, reality smashes his hopes when Chitoge Kirisaki accidentally knees him in the face. Though Raku's a normal high schooler, his family heads the notorious yakuza gang the Shuei-Gumi faction! He's forced into a relationship with Chitoge, the daughter of a rival gang's boss!

Air dates and info are subject to change without notice. Some shows could appear on other channels on different times and days.

Anime Schedule
2014 Winter Season *Continued*

Wizard Barristers: Benmashi Cecil

ウィザード・バリスターズ〜弁魔士セシル

Arms • January 12 • Tokyo MX

wizardbarristers.com • youtu.be/6DU5Aa0BAs8

The story takes place in Tōkyō in 2018, where normal humans and those who can use magic coexist. As a result, there are laws against using magic, and a "magic courtroom" exists to preside over lawsuits regarding magic use. In these cases, "Benmashi" or wizard barristers defend those who use magic. The anime follows Cecil, the youngest Benmashi in history, and her associates as they defend clients in these cases.

Inari, KonKon, Koi Iroha.

いなり、こんこん、恋いろは。

Production IMS • January 15 • Tokyo MX

inarikonkon.jp

Fushimi Inari has a hopeless crush on her classmate Tanbabashi. One day, while trying to interact with him, she accidentally humiliates him in front of the whole class. He refuses to accept her apologies, and, to make matters worse, she discovers that he probably has a crush on their incredibly cute classmate Sumizome.

Maken-Ki! Dai 2-ki

マケン姫っ！通

Xebec • January 15 • Tokyo MX

maken-ki-two.com • youtu.be/r9Ri00XuYlI

Takeru Ōyama, a typical perverted teenage boy. His new school doesn't require entrance exams, and it just turned co-ed! Unfortunately, his dreams of a happy high school life are dashed when he finds out the school is much more than it seems. All of the students wield a special item—a Maken—to unleash their magical abilities in duels! Can Takeru find a Maken that works for him? Even while trying to fit in at a new school and dealing with all kinds of girl problems? Second season.

Sekai Seifuku: Bōryaku no Zvezda (World Conquest: Zvezda)

世界征服〜謀略のズヴィズダー

A-1 Pictures • January 11 • Tokyo MX

www.sekaiseifuku-zzz.com • youtu.be/F8ioDKCiL-Q

The story follows Zvezda, a secret society bent on glorious world conquest—and led by a little girl. The series is written by Okamura and Meteor Hoshizora of the Japanese game company Type-Moon, with original character designs by Kōhaku Kuroboshi and Keigo Sasaki, and music by Tatsuya Kato.

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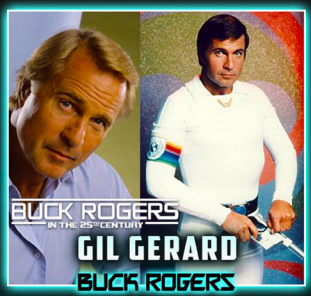
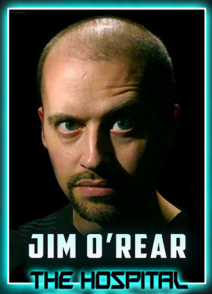


GIL GERARD
BUCK ROGERS

TATTOO BOB
TATTOO ARTIST

CLEVE HALL
MONSTER MAN

ARI LEHMAN
1ST JASON VOORHEES
FRIDAY THE 13TH



JIM O'REAR
THE HOSPITAL
FAT CHANCE

CAST OF DEEP SOUTH PARANORMAL:

TO THE FUTURE . ORG
DELOREAN TIME MACHINE

ERIKA ELENIAK
BAYWATCH & E.T.

HEIDI JO MEDINA
MISS PENSACOLA USA

ERIN CAHILL
POWER RANGERS

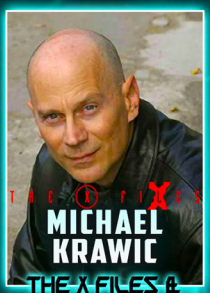
ROBIN SHELBY
GHOSTBUSTERS

MYST3RY, INC.
THE MYST3RY MACHINE

SONNY STRAIT
DRAGONBALL Z

JERRAD VUNOVICH
THE HUNGER GAMES: CATCHING FIRE

SCOTT TEPPERMAN
GHOST HUNTERS INTERNATIONAL

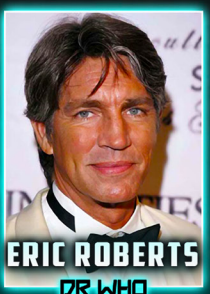


MICHAEL KRAWIC
THE X FILES & STAR TREK

SHADOW CLONE
GEEK PARTY

KARL C. RUHL
PENSACOLA COSTUMERS GUILD

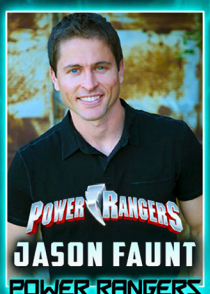
WAYNE DAVIS
EMERALD COAST SPACE SOCIETY



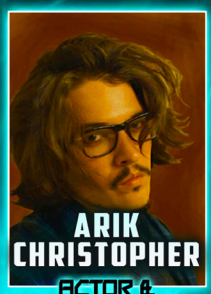
ERIC ROBERTS
DR WHO
DARK KNIGHT

CHARLIE KIRCHOFF
IDW'S DR WHO ARTIST

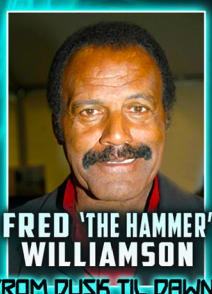
OLIVER ROBINS
POLTERGEIST



JASON FAUNT
POWER RANGERS



ARIK CHRISTOPHER
ACTOR & IMPRESSIONIST



FRED 'THE HAMMER' WILLIAMSON
FROM DUSK TIL DAWN
PRO FOOTBALL STAR

CHRISTOPHER MOON
PARANORMAL INVESTIGATOR MAG

GUEST OF HONOR
LOU FERRIGNO

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The Road to Japan

by Greg J Hansen with C4, Wild Garden and Green Jello

As we move into the new year, and with the announcement that the World Cosplay Summit US Finals now have a home at Anime Central in Rosemont, Illinois, we wanted to take a look back at the events of 2013. We reached out to some of the winners of World Cosplay Summit's US regional tournaments and asked them to talk about their experiences so far on the road to Japan.

C4 Cosplay (C.C. and Cat-Chan) — Gulf Regional Winners at San Japan

World Cosplay Summit has been something that C.C. and I have both followed from afar for a few years. While we both had always thought it would really cool to participate, neither of us had taken it seriously because we never thought it would be close enough to be feasible. That all changed when WCS came to San Japan, a local convention we had both attended for years. Suddenly the WCS finals for 2013 were right in our backyard and we were drawn to compete. Watching a WCS event is almost as much of an experience as participating in one. Never in all my years competing have I seen such mutual support between competitors. Everyone wanted to win, but everyone was happy no matter what the outcome was. It was inspiring. So inspiring, in fact, that somewhere between the last skit and the announcements of the winners, C.C. and I had agreed to team up and compete for San Japan.

One of the hardest things for C.C. and I to overcome was the 350 miles between us. In the planning stages, we spent hours on the phone and messaging each other online. We came up with our skit concept and our plan for executing it. Since we were so far apart, the easiest thing to do was work on the costumes separately, then use a few weekends to get together and block out the skit. We would send each other photos to show our progress, and on a few occasions we had crazy text/phone call/awkward-picture-sketching sessions to help each other solve problems. We were also fortunate to have support from friends and family to get the props and stage pieces constructed, and to help us come up with our team name: C4 Cosplay.

To say we were stressed out at San Japan is an understatement. I can't remember ever being that apprehensive about a costume contest… ever. In fact, I had never faced nervousness of this degree before, even when performing in front of huge crowds in high school (afterwards, C.C. shared with me that she was similarly nervous, though she'd been trying to hide it to not stress me out further).

It wasn't even stress about not succeeding, but more just the stress of uncertainty. Had we prepared enough? Was something going to go terribly wrong? Would we end up in our underwear at the end of the skit? It got so bad I think I made myself physically ill on Saturday, which was disappointing since I had wanted to cosplay and have fun. Instead, C.C. and I spent a few hours practicing, first in a random alcove and then later in an unused meeting room. Finding places to practice at the con was an adventure in and of itself!

One good thing about the competition is that you always have support. You have a partner there with you, of course, but the other teams and WCS staff were all so kind. It's a competition that never quite feels competitive. Everyone is there to give the best performance they can, and everyone is so supportive of everyone else in trying to achieve that goal.

Sunday was an experience. We had to get up early and, while half in costume, pack up our cars with most of our luggage. Carrying our props and

Photo by Angelwing Photography

San Japan Gulf Winner: C4 Cosplay (C.C. and Cat-Chan)

Photo by Angelwing Photography

costumes up to the (freezing cold) main event, we were in the home stretch; shaky and nervous, but excited to finally perform. We did two run-throughs: one without the quick change, and one with. That last run-through was the very first time we had done the whole skit, all out and in full costume, because up until that point we hadn't had any space to try. When I came out from behind the screen in costume and heard all the other teams cheer, I almost started crying right there on stage. It was the moment when everything clicked and when I knew we might actually pull this off. After rehearsal we got back into our pajamas to prepare for the real thing.

We were the last team scheduled to go, and as the team before us left the stage we started our set up in a whirlwind. with only 45 seconds to set up, it was crucial that all of our items were in the correct place. At one point, about 20 seconds in, we both ended up behind the screen to set props and they started our music. My heart sank and C.C. made audible noises of distress. When we came out from behind to get into our first position and they did it again I just kind of laughed. What was this? Where they testing us? Trying to shake our nerves to the core just to make sure we could do it? We were finally in place when I just yelled out "We're ready NOW!" I heard the audience laughing and it made me feel better. The whole thing was like a blur. I remember feeling extremely relieved after coming out from finishing my quick change. I remember nearly freaking out when the large zipper pull we had added on the back of C.C.'s dress snapped off and I thought I wasn't going to get her dress zipped up. I also remember feeling the tension I had been holding lift off me when we hit our final pose. I could go on to talk about the wait and the judging, but quite honestly it really didn't matter after we got off the stage. We performed the best we could and we both felt so relieved after it was over that we were content to sit and watch the halftime show without thinking.

Now that we've made it to the finals, we are both excited to start working on refining our skit and to see where it takes us. We also can't wait meet the other teams and experience this amazing competition again. We are wishing everyone else the best of luck!

Photo by Angelwing Photography

San Japan Gulf Wild Card: Team Shoepuff (Puffness and Shoe)

Wild Garden Cosplay (Teca and Lilacwire) — Mountain Regional Wild Card at NDK

Wild Garden's path to the World Cosplay Summit finals has been one of friendship, starting over ten years ago when we, Teca and Lilacwire, first met at a local convention. The costume Teca was wearing was one that Lilacwire had made before, so we struck up a brief but friendly conversation about it and the character. We talked and bonded further when we found that we were both participating in the costume contest. We settled naturally into a group of friends that enjoyed traveling and cosplaying together.

In 2011 we both had to take a break from cosplaying: Teca for medical reasons, and Lilacwire wanted to focus on planning her wedding. As the year drew to a close, we both found that we were eager to not only jump back into the hobby but also to try something new.

Photo by Angelwing Photography

WCS seemed like a perfect fit.

We spent much of 2012 batting around ideas, learning how to work together as a pair instead of as a larger group, and gearing up for the first regional preliminary, which happened to be at our home anime convention, Nan Desu Kan. After that it was off to finals at Anime Matsuri in April 2013.

We've enjoyed the unique challenges that the WCS presented, but we also delighted in getting to play in a much more varied creative sandbox. We also enjoyed the ability to edit and improve on our skit after it was initially performed. For our resume, we styled it after an FBI criminal file and created playful "good to meet you" videos, which we aimed at the other regional teams, and finally we filmed an *Iron Chef*-themed team introduction video. Since the pool of competing teams is smaller for WCS, and we are all facing similar trials and tribulations, it's easy to form bonds with the others.

Wild Garden finished as Runner-Up to Cupcake Cosplay. Rather than being disappointed, we were even more inspired to try and push ourselves even further. With the wonderful experience at Anime Matsuri as motivation, we broke our "two weeks off" rule and almost immediately started coming up with ideas for the next round of preliminaries.

One of the most fun and challenging aspects for us was deciding on the costume and skit. Teca is much more the anime watcher of the group, while Lilacwire prefers video games and American media. While we both have varied interests, it means we don't always harmonize on ideas.

Other strengths separate us too. Teca is very list and idea-oriented, making her a really great skit brainstormer, while Lilacwire is more free-form, feeling things out and building off of Teca's ideas.

Our first year at WCS, we looked at many different series, but finally settled on *Final Fantasy 6*. Our goal was to find something with dynamic characters who not only were challenging to cosplay, but would appeal to and make sense to an audience who may not know the series or have played the game.

At first Lilacwire was resistant to the idea of cosplaying Terra. She'd had a lot of friends who had done that character in the past and felt like she could not do justice to the character like they had. However, Teca was able to persuade her with the argument that it made for really good interaction on stage, which certainly turned out to be the case.

We each knew that we wanted to try out new skills with the Final Fantasy 6 costumes, which was another challenging aspect of choosing the "right" characters. A lot of painting and dyeing went into the two costumes, and we made sure to emphasize that in

NDK Mounatin Wild Card: Wild Garden Cosplay (Teca and Lilacwire)

judging. Teca presented a swatch guide to her costume because it had so many different fabric choices making up Kefka's look.

For 2014, the costume choice was much harder. We both agreed that Kefka and Terra were such a great on-stage duo that it would be a difficult concept to match. We were also concerned about reusing the idea, and being considered a one trick pony. Again, we were presented with the need of finding potential costumes that were complex enough to look impressive both up close and from a distance.

Right after the end of the 2013 Finals competition, Lilacwire shot a few character ideas to Teca, even though we had agreed to let our brains rest for a few weeks. Teca was hit with a skit idea about Utena that night. We were both enthused enough by the idea that we decided to run with it!

We both liked that the characters in the *Utena* skit were so different from Kefka and Terra. It gave us a new palette of colors and themes to choose from. Teca was also relieved to not have several hours of body paint to deal with before performing.

The series of *Utena* is exceedingly complicated and layered, so we wanted to focus on the relationship behind the roles of "prince," princess," and "witch." This would require an entirely new set of skills and staging that neither of us had attempted before, including teaching ourselves basic stage combat and attempting to integrate a third character. We once again competed in the preliminary at Nan Desu Kan and are once again moving on to finals, this time at Anime Central in May. Wild Garden is currently working hard to edit and improve our performance and costumes, excited to once again be part of the entire experience!

Green Jello Cosplay (Elrowiel and Pannon) — Mountain Regional Winners at NDK

Photo by Dustin Leitzel Photography

NDK Mountain Winner: Green Jello Cosplay (Elrowiel and Pannon)

Green Jello Cosplay has been participating in World Cosplay Summit since 2010, and each year we have tried to push ourselves and improve. We both have a great love of performing and costuming, and WCS has a level of competition that is always spectacular. It's been a great place for us to learn, as well as to meet amazing cosplay teams from all across the country!

This year we decided to take some risks and try a lot of new things, both in our performances and in our costumes. We typically have large dresses or elaborate backgrounds, but this year we decided to simplify. We focused on the details and on

Photo by Dustin Leitzel Photography

Photo by Dustin Leitzel Photography

telling a story that could be easily understood, whether or not the audience was familiar with the series we were portraying.

We chose the series *Guilty Crown* for its beautiful and unique character designs, exciting storyline, and great music. One of the hardest parts of planning a skit can be finding just the right music or script. Elrowiel is usually the one seeking out music, while Pannon edits and records audio. Since Christmas Day is important to *Guilty Crown,* when we came across a darker instrumental version of "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" that we both loved, we knew it would be perfect.

Next, of course, were the costumes! We knew we wanted to have costume changes within the skit, which meant planning not one costume, but two. It's always tricky to translate something two-dimensional into something real, and to choose fabrics and materials that represent what can be seen on screen. So much of this process is left up to the cosplayer's interpretation and imagination, and we wanted to have a lot of fun with them. Since most of the local stores here in Utah didn't carry much in the way of unique colors and styles, we decided a trip to LA's fashion district was in order.

After much searching and haggling, we found the perfect satins, silks, crazy crystals and stones we'd been searching for. We ended up using a lot of new techniques this year, things we had never tried—Summit definitely gives us great motivation to continue improving and learning! We used silkscreening, gradient dyeing, reverse applique, smocking, and other techniques for the first time while building the costumes for this competition.

Once we had chosen music and were completing costumes, we had to bring it all together with our skit. That always seems to be the hardest, and it is often something that changes and evolves throughout the months of work. We were tweaking it and making last-minute changes all the way up to the night before performance!

No matter how much preparation goes in prior to competition, it's still hard to feel completely ready when the competition arrives! Our qualifier took place at one of our favorite conventions, Nan Desu Kan, so we were excited to see old friends and enjoy the con too!

Craftsmanship judging was the first day of the con, which was kind of a relief. We got to meet with the judges one team at a time, and there talk with them about how we sewed, built and created the costumes. It can definitely be intimidating, but we usually have much more to talk about than we have time on the clock, so we're never short on words!

Next was a set-building party where we got to meet the other teams, judges and photographers. That was one of our favorite parts, since it's a much more laid-back and fun atmosphere. This time as we got our set put together, Elrowiel got a pretty bad second-degree burn on her arm from our high-temp glue gun. A few of the contestants (and some amazing friends who volunteered to help us put backgrounds together) were really sweet, though, and ran to the rescue, and the medical staff had her bandaged up in no time!

The day of the performance was of course the most nerve-wracking, but you

Photo by Dustin Leitzel Photography

Photo by Dustin Leitzel Photography

could feel the excitement in the air! All of the teams were amazingly supportive of one another, cheering them on from the backstage and sidelines as we each went up. Despite a couple of hiccups, we got through the skit and waited to hear results from the judges. Minutes always stretch into hours at that point, and it's hard not to linger on what went right and wrong in the performance, but as we were all called up to the stage, everyone was smiling and hopeful. The teams held hands as they announced the winners, and we were so floored to hear our names! The rest was something of a blur as we hugged friends and called family to tell them the news.

Even after the competition, we had a couple more surprises! Directionally challenged, the 3rd place team, had worn *Tsubasa* and *xxxHolic* costumes and we'd also brought ours to the con, so we were able to do a quick photoshoot together. Best of all, we got to go to a dinner with many of the participants at Colorado's infamous Casa Bonita! Wild Garden gave us a tour and we had an amazing time!

It is still shocking to think that we won and are going on to finals! There are so many things we want to improve upon and change in order to make our performance there even better. The hardest part is knowing that every team there has been working just as hard, wants to win just as much, and is giving it their all; but only one team can make it to Japan. Having met new and old teams each year, we know the US will continue to have amazing representatives no matter who wins. Please wish us and all the teams the best of luck! See you at finals! ❖

Current WCS US Finalists

San Japan Gulf Winner: C4 Cosplay (C.C. and Cat-Chan)
San Japan Gulf Wild Card: Team Shoepuff (Puffness and Shoe)
NDK Mountain Winner: Green Jello Cosplay (Elrowiel and Pannon)
NDK Mounatin Wild Card: Wild Garden Cosplay (Teca and Lilacwire)

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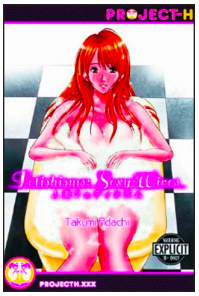
Manga Releases

Winter 2014

Crimson Empire: Circumstances to Serve a Noble, Vol. 3
QuinRose, Hazuki Futaba
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
December 24

Attack on Titan, Vol. 10
Hajime Isayama
Kodansha Comics
December 31



Fetishisms: Sexy Wives††
Takumi Adachi
Project-H, LLC
December 31

Hello Work††
Hiroshi Itaba
Project-H, LLC
December 31

Neon Genesis Evangelion: The Shinji Ikari Raising Project, Vol. 13
Osamu Takahashi
Dark Horse
December 31

Nyotai-ka!, Vol. 1††
Ru-En Rouga
Project-H, LLC
December 31

Levi, Eren Yeager & Mikasa Ackerman — Attack on Titan

The information presented herein is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. †Yaoi and ††hentai titles for mature audiences 18+.

Manga Releases

Winter 2014 *Continued*

Power Play!††
Yamatogawa
Project-H, LLC
December 31

Sankarea, Vol. 4
Mitsuru Hattori
Kodansha Comics
December 31

Stardust Traffic, Vol. 1††
Kobato Takahashi
Project-H, LLC
December 31

The Tale of Boobs: Chichi Monogatari††
Ōkami Ryosuke
Project-H, LLC
December 31

Alice in the Country of Hearts: The Mad Hatter's Late Night Tea Party, Vol 2
QuinRose, Riko Sakura
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
January 7

Bleach (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 7: Includes Vols. 19, 20 & 21
Tite Kubo
VIZ Media, LLC
January 7

Dictatorial Grimoire, Vol. 2
Ayumi Kanō
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
January 7

Fairy Tail, Vol. 34
Hiro Mashima
Kodansha Comics
January 7

Flowers of Evil, Vol. 8
Shuzo Oshimi
Vertical, Incorporated
January 7

Hana-Kimi (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 7: Includes Vols. 19, 20 & 21
Hisaya Nakajō
VIZ Media, LLC
January 7

Kimi ni Todoke: From Me to You, Vol. 18
Karuho Shiina
VIZ Media, LLC
January 7

Midnight Secretary, Vol. 3
Tomu Ōmi
VIZ Media, LLC
January 7

Monster Musume, Vol. 2
OKAYADO
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
January 7

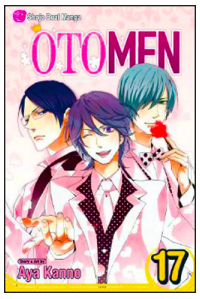
Naruto (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 7: Includes Vols. 19, 20 & 21
Masashi Kishimoto
VIZ Media, LLC
January 7

Naruto, Vol. 64
Masashi Kishimoto
VIZ Media, LLC
January 7

Izumi Sano, Mizuki Ashiya & Shuichi Nakatsu — Hanazakari no Kimitachi e (aka Hana-Kimi)

Natsume's Book of Friends, Vol. 15
Yuki Midorikawa
VIZ Media, LLC
January 7

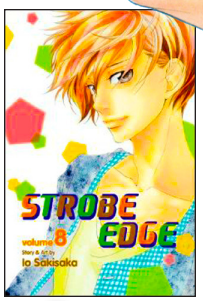
Nisekoi: False Love, Vol. 1
Naoshi Komi
VIZ Media, LLC
January 7



Otomen, Vol. 17
Aya Kanno
VIZ Media, LLC
January 7

Psyren, Vol. 14
Toshiaki Iwashiro
VIZ Media, LLC
January 7

Rurouni Kenshin: Restoration, Vol. 2
Nobuhiro Watsuki
VIZ Media, LLC
January 7



Strobe Edge, Vol. 8
Io Sakisaka
VIZ Media, LLC
January 7

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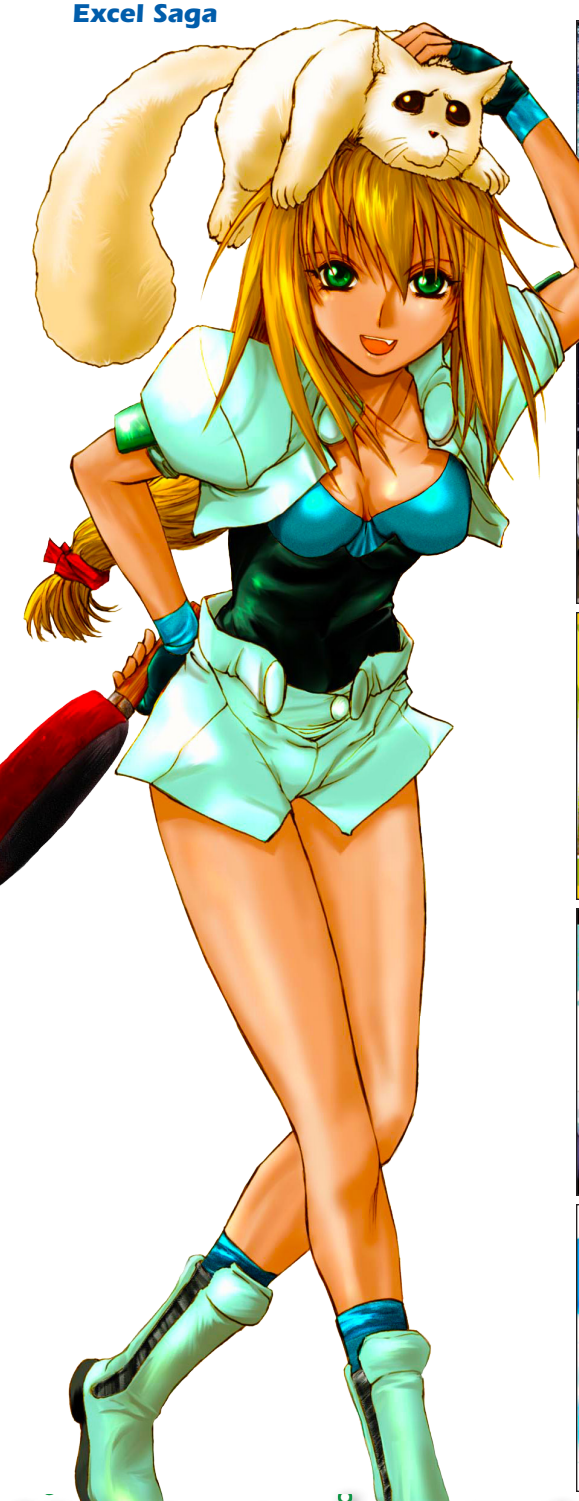
Manga Releases

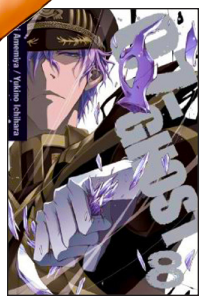
Winter 2014 *Continued*

Menchi & Excel — Excel Saga



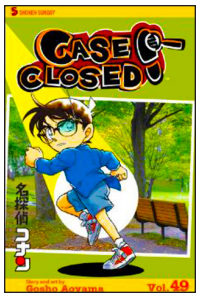
Yu-Gi-Oh! Zexal, Vol. 4
Shin Yoshida, Naohito Miyoshi
VIZ Media, LLC
January 7

Zero's Familiar, Omnibus 6-7
Noboru Yamaguchi, Nana Mochizuki
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
January 7



07-GHOST, Vol. 8
Yuki Amemiya, Yukino Ichihara
VIZ Media, LLC
January 14

A Century of Temptation†
Kairi Shimotsuki
Digital Manga Publishing
January 14
Not Actual Cover



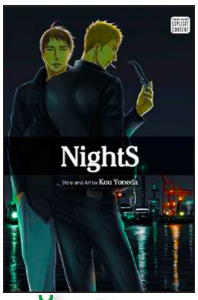
Case Closed, Vol. 49
Gosho Aoyama
VIZ Media, LLC
January 14

Depression of the Anti-Romanticist, Vol. 2†
Yasuna Suginuma, Riyu Yamakami
Digital Manga Publishing
January 14

Excel Saga, Vol. 27
Rikdo Koshi
VIZ Media, LLC
January 14

His Favorite, Vol. 6†
Suzuki Tanaka
SuBLime
January 14

Missions of Love, Vol. 6
Ema Tōyama
Kodansha Comics
January 14



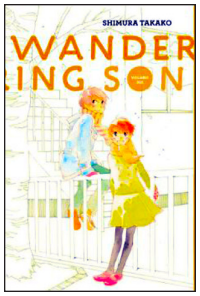
NightS†
Kō Yoneda
SuBLime
January 14

Sherlock Bones, Vol. 3
Yuma Ando, Yuki Satō
Kodansha Comics
January 14

Tokyo Mew Mew à la Mode Omnibus
Mia Ikumi
Kodansha Comics
January 14

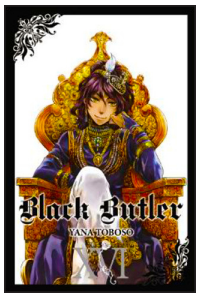
Trigun Maximum Omnibus, Vol. 2
Yasuhiro Nightō
Dark Horse
January 14

Wolfsmund, Vol. 3
Mitsuhisa Kuji
Vertical, Incorporated
January 14

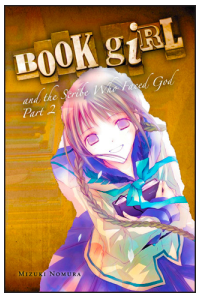


Wandering Son, Vol. 6
Shimura Takako
Fantagraphics Books
January 18

Arisa, Vol. 12
Natsumi Ando
Kodansha Comics
January 21



Black Butler, Vol. 16
Yana Toboso
Yen Press
January 21



Book Girl and the Scribe Who Faced God, Part 2
Mizuki Nomura
Yen Press
January 21

Durarara!! Saika Arc, Vol. 3
Ryohgo Narita, Akiyo Satorigi
Yen Press
January 21

From the New World, Vol. 2
Yusuke Kishi, Tōru Ōikawa
Vertical, Incorporated
January 21

Goong, Vol. 14
So Hee Park
Yen Press
January 21

Haganai: I Don't Have Many Friends, Vol. 5
Yomi Hirasaka, Itachi
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
January 21
Not Actual Cover

Inu x Boku SS, Vol. 2
Cocoa Fujiwara
Yen Press
January 21

Love in Hell, Vol 2
Reiji Suzumaru
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
January 21

My Boyfriend is a Vampire, Vol. 11-12
Han Yu-Rang
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
January 21

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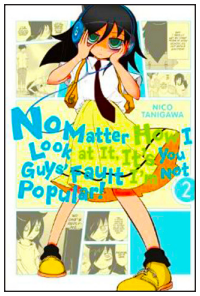
Manga Releases

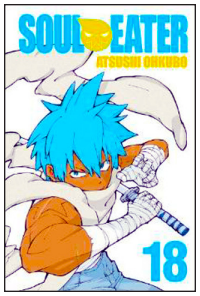
Winter 2014 *Continued*



No Matter How I Look at It, It's You Guys' Fault I'm Not Popular!, Vol. 2
Nico Tanigawa
Yen Press
January 21

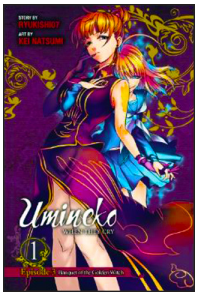
Omamori Himari, Vol. 11
Milan Matra
Yen Press
January 21

Ōoku: The Inner Chambers, Vol. 9
Fumi Yoshinaga
VIZ Media, LLC
January 21



Soul Eater, Vol. 18
Atsushi Ōkubo
Yen Press
January 21

Triage X, Vol. 5
Shōji Satō
Yen Press
January 21



Umineko WHEN THEY CRY Episode 3: Banquet of the Golden Witch, Vol. 1
Ryukishi07, Kei Natsumi
Yen Press
January 21

Vinland Saga, Vol. 2
Makoto Yukimura
Kodansha Comics
January 21

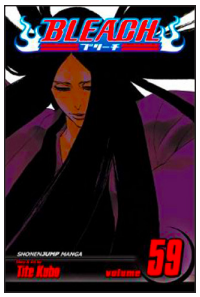
Attack on Titan, Vol. 11
Hajime Isayama
Kodansha Comics
January 28

Blade of the Immortal, Vol. 28
Hiroaki Samura
Dark Horse
January 28

A Centaur's Life, Vol. 2
Kei Murayama
Seven Seas
Entertainment, LLC
February 4

Air Gear, Vol. 30
Oh! great
Kodansha Comics
February 4

Alice in the Country of Joker: Circus and Liar's Game, Vol. 4
QuinRose, Mamenosuke Fujimaru
Seven Seas
Entertainment, LLC
February 4



Bleach, Vol. 59
Tite Kubo
VIZ Media, LLC
February 4

Devil and Her Love Song, Vol. 13
Miyoshi Tomori
VIZ Media, LLC
February 4

Dragon Ball Full Color, Vol. 1
Akira Toriyama
VIZ Media, LLC
February 4

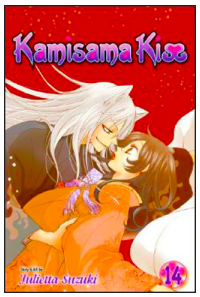
Himari Noihara —
Omamori Himari

Dragonar Academy, Vol. 1
Shiki Mizuchi, Ran
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
February 4
Not Actual Cover

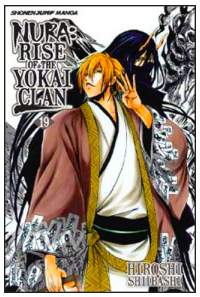
Gantz, Vol. 30
Hiroya Oku, Chris Warner
Dark Horse
February 4

Happy Marriage?!, Vol. 4
Maki Enjōji
VIZ Media, LLC
February 4

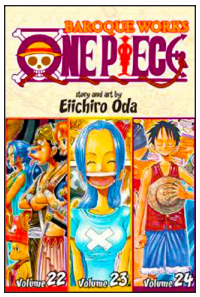
High School Debut (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 1: Includes Vols. 1, 2 & 3
Kazune Kawahara
VIZ Media, LLC
February 4



Kamisama Kiss, Vol. 14
Julietta Suzuki
VIZ Media, LLC
February 4



Nura: Rise of the Yokai Clan, Vol. 19
Hiroshi Shiibashi
VIZ Media, LLC
February 4



One Piece: Baroque Works 22-23-24, Vol. 8 (Omnibus Edition)
Eiichirō Oda
VIZ Media, LLC
February 4

Sakura Hime: The Legend of Princess Sakura, Vol. 12
Arina Tanemura
VIZ Media, LLC
February 4

The Wallflower, Vol. 32
Tomoko Hayakawa
Kodansha Comics
February 4
Not Actual Cover

The information presented here is as accurate as much information is available and is subject to change without notice. Please note that some titles listed are mature titles for mature audiences 18+.

Manga Releases

Winter 2014 *Continued*

Toradora!, Vol. 6
Yuyuko Takemiya, Zekkyo
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
February 4

Toriko, Vol. 20
Mitsutoshi Shimabukuro
VIZ Media, LLC
February 4

Voice Over!: Seiyu Academy, Vol. 3
Maki Minami
VIZ Media, LLC
February 4

Battle Angel Alita: Last Order Omnibus 3
Yukito Kishiro
Kodansha Comics
February 11

Blue Morning, Vol. 4†
Shōko Hidaka
SuBLime
February 11

Crimson Spell, Vol. 2†
Ayano Yamane
SuBLime
February 11

Deadman Wonderland, Vol. 1
Jinsei Katoka, Kazuma Kondō
VIZ Media, LLC
February 11

Ganta Igarashi & Shiro — Deadman Wonderland

Deflower The Boss†
Ayan Sakuragi
Digital Manga Publishing
February 11

Hayate the Combat Butler, Vol. 23
Kenjiro Hata
VIZ Media, LLC
February 11

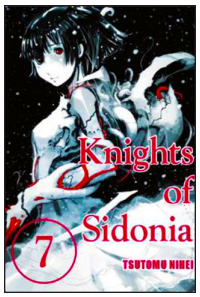
Her and Her Uniform††
Hiroshi Itaba
Project-H, LLC
February 11

Her Sensitive Spot††
Nikusoukyu
Project-H, LLC
February 11
Not Actual Cover

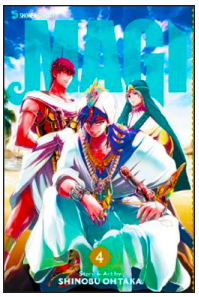
Hey, Class President!, Vol. 4†
Kaori Monchi
801 Media, Inc.
February 11
Not Actual Cover

Hot & Steamy, Vol. 2††
Hiroshi Itaba
Project-H, LLC
February 11

Inuyasha, Vol. 18 (VIZBIG Edition)
Rumiko Takahashi
VIZ Media, LLC
February 11



Knights of Sidonia, Vol. 7
Tsutomu Nihei
Vertical, Incorporated
February 11



Magi: The Labyrinth of Magic, Vol. 4
Shinobu Ōtaka
VIZ Media, LLC
February 11

Negima! Omnibus 9
Ken Akamatsu
Kodansha Comics
February 11

Ring X Mama, Vol. 2††
Jōhji Manabe
Project-H, LLC
February 11

The Dirty Triangle††
Kazuma Takeuchi
Project-H, LLC
February 11

Tiger & Bunny, Vol. 4
Mizuki Sakakibara, Masakazu Katsura
VIZ Media, LLC
February 11

Blood Blockade Battlefront, Vol. 5
Yasuhiro Nightō
Dark Horse
February 18

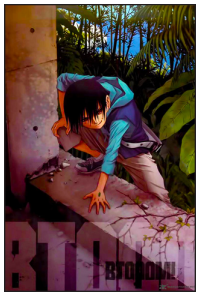
Blood Lad, Vol. 4
Yūki Kodama
Yen Press
February 18

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. †Yaoi and ††hentai titles for mature audiences 18+.

Manga Releases

Winter 2014 *Continued*

Bokurano: Ours, Vol. 10
Mohiro Kitō
VIZ Media, LLC
February 18

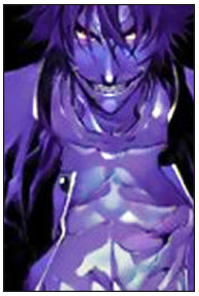


BTOOOM!, Vol. 5
Junya Inoue
Yen Press
February 18
Not Actual Cover

Cage of Eden, Vol. 13
Yoshinobu Yamada
Kodansha Comics
February 18

Gangsta., Vol. 1
Kohske.
VIZ Media, LLC
February 18

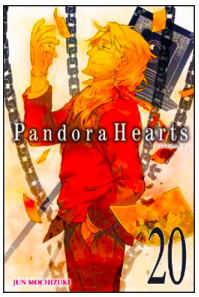
Is This a Zombie?, Vol. 7
Kore wa Zombie Desu-ka?
Yen Press
February 18
Not Actual Cover



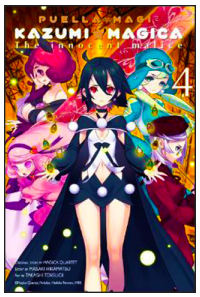
Jack Frost, Vol. 9
Jinho Ko
Yen Press
February 18
Not Actual Cover

Judge, Vol. 3
Yoshiki Tonogai
Yen Press
February 18

No. 6, Vol. 5
Atsuko Asano
Kodansha Comics
February 18

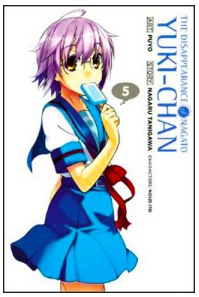


PandoraHearts, Vol. 20
Jun Mochizuki
Yen Press
February 18

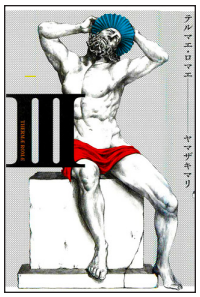


Puella Magi Kazumi Magica: The Innocent Malice, Vol. 4
Masaki Hiramatsu, Takashi Tensugi
Yen Press
February 18

Strike Witches: Maidens in the Sky, Vol. 1
Humikane Shimada, Yūki Tanaka
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
February 18
Not Actual Cover



The Disappearance of Nagato Yuki-chan, Vol. 5
Nagaru Tanigawa, Puyo, Noizi Ito
Yen Press
February 18



Thermae Romae, Vol. 3
Mari Yamazaki
Yen Press
February 18
Not Actual Cover

Fairy Tail, Vol. 35
Hiro Mashima
Kodansha Comics
February 25
Not Actual Cover

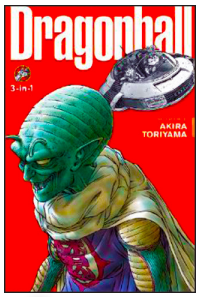
Alice in the Country of Clover: March's Hare
QuinRose, Soyogo Iwaki
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
March 4
Not Actual Cover

Black Bird, Vol. 18
Kanoko Sakurakōji
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4

Blue Exorcist, Vol. 11
Kazue Kato
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4

Blood-C, Vol. 3
CLAMP, Philip Simon, Ranmaru Kotone
Dark Horse
March 4

D.Gray-man (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 3: Includes Vols. 7, 8 & 9
Katsura Hoshino
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4



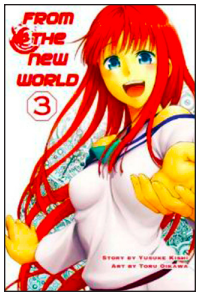
Dragon Ball (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 4: Includes Vols. 10, 11 & 12
Akira Toriyama
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4

Mio Sakamoto & Yoshika Miyafuji — Strike Witches

The information presented here is as accurate as manually possible and is subject to change without notice. Yaoi and hentai titles for mature audiences 18+.

Manga Releases

Winter 2014 *Continued*



From the New World, Vol. 3
Yusuke Kishi, Tōru Ōikawa
Vertical, Incorporated
March 4

Fushigi Yûgi: Genbu Kaiden, Vol. 12
Yū Watase
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4

Haganai: I Don't Have Many Friends, Vol. 6
Yomi Hirasaka, Itachi
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
March 4
Not Actual Cover

Midnight Secretary, Vol. 4†
Tomu Ōmi
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4

Nisekoi: False Love, Vol. 2
Naoshi Komi
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4

One Piece, Vol. 70
Eiichirō Oda
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4

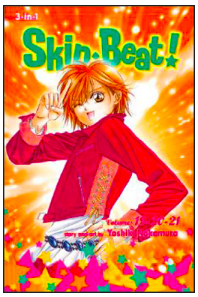
Oresama Teacher, Vol. 16
Izumi Tsubaki
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4

Phantom Thief Jeanne, Vol. 1
Arina Tanemura
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4
Not Actual Cover

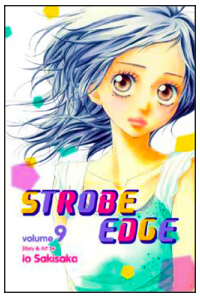
Psyren, Vol. 15
Toshiaki Iwashiro
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4

RIN-NE, Vol. 14
Rumiko Takahashi
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4

Senran Kagura: Skirting Shadows, Vol. 2
Kenichirō Takaki, Amami Takatsume
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
March 4



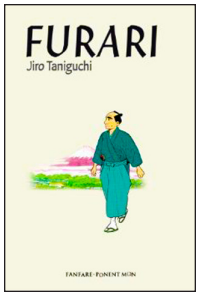
Skip Beat! (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 7: Includes Vols. 19, 20 & 21
Yoshiki Nakamura
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4



Strobe Edge, Vol. 9
Io Sakisaka
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4

Tegami Bachi, Vol. 16
Hiroyuki Asada
VIZ Media, LLC
March 4

The Sacred Blacksmith Vol. 4
Isao Miura, Kotaru Yamada
Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC
March 4



Furari
Jiro Taniguchi
Ponent Mon S.L
March 6

The Walking Man
Jiro Taniguchi
Ponent Mon S.L
March 6

07-GHOST, Vol. 9
Yuki Amemiya, Yukino Ichihara
VIZ Media, LLC
March 11

An Innocent Relationship, Vol. 2††
Takumi Kobayashi
Project-H, LLC
March 11

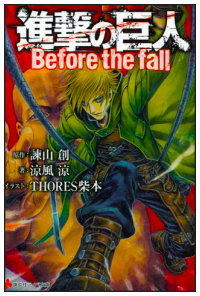
Luke Ainsworth, Lisa, Aria & Cecily Cambell — The Sacred Blacksmith

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice. "Hentai" and "hentai ti... audiences 18...

Manga Releases

Winter 2014 *Continued*

Arata: The Legend, Vol. 17
Yū Watase
VIZ Media, LLC
March 11



Attack on Titan: Before the Fall, Vol. 1
Hajime Isayama, Ryo Suzukaze, Satoshi Shiki
Kodansha Comics
March 11
Not Actual Cover

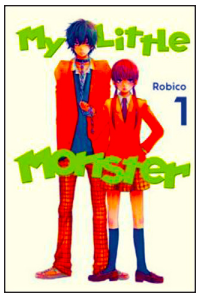
Attack on Titan: Junior High, Vol. 1
Hajime Isayama, Saki Nakagawa
Kodansha Comics
March 11
Not Actual Cover

Deadlock, Vol. 1†
Saki Aida, Yuh Takashina
Digital Manga Publishing
March 11

Embracing Love (2-in-1), Vol. 2: Includes Vols. 3 & 4†
Yōka Nitta
SuBLime
March 11

Fullmetal Alchemist (3-in-1 Edition), Vol. 7: Includes Vols. 19, 20 & 21
Hiromu Arakawa
VIZ Media, LLC
March 11

Hide and Seek, Vol. 2†
Yaya Sakuragi
SuBLime
March 11



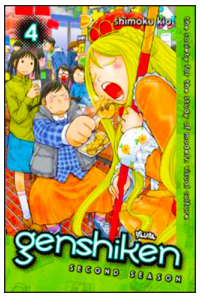
My Little Monster, Vol. 1
Robico
Kodansha Comics
March 11

Mobile Suit Gundam: THE ORIGIN, Vol. 5
Yashuhiko Yoshikazu, Yoshiyuki Tomino, hAJIME Yatate
Vertical, Incorporated
March 11

Ranma 1/2 (2-in-1 Edition), Vol. 1: Includes Vols. 1 & 2
Rumiko Takahashi
VIZ Media, LLC
March 11

See Me After Class, Vol. 2††
Munyu
Project-H, LLC
March 11

Sherlock Bones, Vol. 4
Yuma Ando
Kodansha Comics
March 11



Genshiken: Second Season, Vol. 4
Shimoku Kio
Kodansha Comics
March 18

Vagabond, Vol. 35
Takehiko Inoue
VIZ Media, LLC
March 18
Not Actual Cover

xxxHOLiC Omnibus 1
Clamp
Kodansha Comics
March 18

An Interview...

with Luc Biron, Creator of...

“**G-Anime** is, by far, the best anime convention in the Ottawa-Gatineau area. Since it was founded in 2009, we have multiplied our efforts over the years to satisfy otakus of all ages and interests through a wide variety of programming, including media guests, panels, workshops, activities and special events.” - Luc Biron

Ed: Mr. Biron, start by telling us briefly about yourself.

Luc: I am Luc Biron, also know as "Card Master" or sometimes the "Bironzilla." I am the creator of the anime convention **G-Anime**.

We are located in Gatineau, in the 4th biggest city of the province of Québec, just at the border of Ontario and the captital of Canada, Ottawa, which is in Ontario.

Ed: That sounds interesting. What did you do for people to call you "Card Master?" Do you play card games like *Magic, The Gathering* or *Yu-Gi-Oh?*

Luc: That is my old nick name that I did use, online in the end the mid 90s and after. I did use that name when I created *Terminus Traduction*, a French translation group of retro video game.

Ed: I see. So before there was a **G-Anime**, what made you decide to create a convention? Were there other people involved in the creation of the **G-Anime**?

Luc: This part is the "rock and roll" one in fact! As I told you, we are at the border of Québec and Ontario. For people that do not know, Canada is officially bilingual. Ontario is a English province, Québec is the French one. However, Ottawa, the capital of this country is bilingual. For us in Québec, this convention thing is pretty new. The first one that did really touch the massses was Otakuthon. All the other ones were failures, mostly due to the fact that they did not have any advertising in French and no content in French too. In the Ottawa/Gatineau region, there was a con that was call AC3. Since they were the closet con of Québec. They were getting a good portion of French people from the province that were going to the event. But of course, while we were sure, there were at least 25% of French people at the con. None of the staff were ready to acknowledge this and of course no effort to have some French content.

In 2007, I manage to get an informal number by participating to the masquerade of the convention. It was clear that they had at least 40% of French people. After this edition, they decided to close the door for one year. The staff was burned out. And the hotel, which was the only place that could hold them in Ottawa at the time, did not want them back. That's were I stepped in. I did gather people in the city of Gatineau to make G-anime for February 2009 (AC3 was in November). The team was made of all Quebeckers, but we were all bilingual. In Québec, we are forced to learn English as second language (inverse, if you are in the English school). At the end of high school, you

become functional in the other language or a least have the tools to be bilingual, if you're are thrown in the environnement. This is not the case of other provinces and Ontario is not a exception to the rules.

We decided to rent the Palais des Congrès of Gatineau, which is actually bigger than the older hotel that AC3. Rent is cheaper. Even if the Palais is in Gatineau, is actually downtown Ottawa, which makes it easy to access for people of the city.

The con was decided to be bilingual. However, we did decide to be French oriented and give more French content than English one. We did that for 3 reasons. Being in Gatineau (even if we are downtown Ottawa!), we were losing a English portion of con-goers for sure, as Québec is badly seen in Canada in general. The second reason was to be sure we secure all the travelling people from the province of Québec. Since Québec only had Otakuthon at that time, it was clear that we were gonna to be the next con to get those travellers. The last one was simple, because of what happened, we need to be the strong French presence in the region and we did know that we were the only one that will do a true effort to have French content. On the other side there was no question of doing the same thing to the English people did to us, so that's why we did and still have a good slice of English content and a lot of positions require bilinguists.

Ed: In a way, it's the same here in Southern California, but not officially. Almost every "official" documents you find here are in English and Spanish. I think this the same along our southern border states. I've been to Canada a few years ago. Fort McMurray in Alberta to be exact. That was my first exposure to the bilingual culture of your country by watching the local TV programming. Being in an area that's primarily French-speaking, were there any difficulties or conflicts that **G-Anime** had to resolve by being a new, bilingual convention?

Luc: Of course, we did have a lot of issues, the bilingual concept is almost a double work! It also give us balancing the content. Another issue we had was the issue with what can be bilingual and what cannot be bilingual. Event if we knew what we had to do in the big line we did need to revised some of ours ways of working. But the biggest issue with our work is to find English people that can translated in English, and usually this is bad. English people do not learn French outside Québec, even in Ottawa, so most of the time we are forced to a French translator to translate in English. And I can tell

Photo by Charles Mahopel

Hallway cosplay.

Photo by Charles Mahopel

you that it's not something recommended. We try to have several English people making double checks, but something it show on official document.

But the worse issue is being on the border of Ottawa in Gatineau, you have no idea how a bridge can give so much issue on ours side for the people of Ottawa. Québec is badly seen for a lot of English Canadians. Most people that live in Ottawa do not go in Gatineau event if it is a bridge away. The Palais is actually downtown Ottawa when you think about it. It is a 5 minute car drive from Rideau Center (one of the most important malls in Ottawa). Even for us, our next edition we still have to do avertersing on this. Also people in Ottawa are not used to bilingual in this kind event and they are not always ready to accept an event were they only have 50% of the content in English available to them. Some even refuse to believe that we have English content at all too, even with a website guest, activities that are announced in English, because we are in Québec. That sad, but we have to live with it event if we are the only convention that do have content in French and English in the region.

The guests are another issue. We have to deal with it. English guest are really expensive and it is pretty hard for a con to support, not to mention that they are also cultural. So a guest that English will not appeal to the French guests and vice versa. The French guest are, on the other way, easier to deal with and cost a fraction of the price. And since we have a limited budget and we to have French guests and English guest it sure to that it is harder a big name. We did get Terri Hawkes (*Sailor Moon*), but usually those guests cost 50% to 75% of our budget, which is not acceptable. There no chance that a medium size con (around 2000 person) can have a big line up of guest at such cost. Since we are impacted near zero, even with a big guest it is clear that an investment of this size will make us lose money.

But all that negative issue are reversed when it comes to the province of Québec. We have the most unique guests in the province in French, they is no competition for convention in Québec so we have a prime spot of exposure, we have store in Montréal (2 hours by road) that are taking pre-reg. Our zone of impact is not 2.5 hours by road, but 5 hours by road. We even have impact in the province up to 8 hours away. In fact Abitibi-Témiscamingue (a small region by the way) is bringing

Two Velociraptors taking a break.

Photo by Charles Mahopel

as much, has no more people than the city of Toronto.

Ed: You have your hands full. And I'm happy that all these problems are resolved and overcome adversity in your convention. I'm really impressed! This will be the 5th year **G-Anime**, correct? I'm sure that each year, the convention grew. In what ways were you and the **G-Anime** staff able to maintain, handle and support the growth of the convention?

Luc: That the 6th edition. That will sound strange but our grow have been constant and but not too big. So it did manage by itself. The major issue with staff, where to find people that will help us for the con, not the glory and that they were competent! That's an issue that all the fan run cons have to live with. It was not worse but it was a pretty much a frustrating experience having people promised and saying it was done when it was not the case. I did have a pretty good core staff at first by chance!

Ed: My mistake, 6th edition. I like that you're growing steadily, constantly and not too big. I've been to conventions that start out rather nice, but in a couple years, grew too big. Sometimes conventions become so big that the current venue cannot host the convention anymore. I understand that growth is a challenge for all conventions.

Staffing is always an issue too a conventions. I, myself volunteer for our local anime con by helping out with their program guide. And I'm always happy to help out. Every year, they have recruitment events to get volunteers. I also help out by asking my friends to volunteer also.

What would you like to tell our readers reasons why they should come visit Gatineau and try out attending **G-Anime** in the future?

Luc: Recruiting is a major problem for a lot of conventions and that why we try to treat our staff with great respect. The job is hard but it is all about making a event fun and good, so it can give memories for all the participants. You need a lot of luck, however, some cons do not have the chance that I have, some just destroyed it.

Why should people should come to Gatineau? That's simple, because our con is unique with our content and activity are quality, and of course, because of our unique situation, we are just a good reason to come us and see what we got. :) ❖ Ed Gomez

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www.myotherme.ca

www.highdeafproductions.com

My OTHER Me

a film about cosplayers

high deaf

MOD

MY OTHER ME

Who's That Seiyū

Kuwashima, Hōko

桑島 法子

DOB: **December 12, 1975**
Kanegasaki, Iwate

Blood Type: **A**

Current Roles…

Mori, Yuki
Uchū Senkan Yamato 2199

Makishima, Kaori
Oreimo.

Matsuura, Nanase
Macross Frontier

Rosé Thomas
Hagane no Renkinjutsushi

Miki, Shin'ichirō

三木 眞一郎

DOB: **March 18, 1968**
Tōkyō

Blood Type: **AB**

Current Roles…

Gintarō
Gingitsune

Mikisugi, Aikuro
Kill la Kill

Roy Mustang
Hagane no Renkinjutsushi

Urahara, Kisuke
Bleach

Toyosaki, Aki

豊崎 愛生

DOB: **October 28, 1986**
Tokushima Prefecture

Blood Type: **AB**

Current Roles…

Hagiwara, Sakura
Sekai Ichiban!

Kon
Tokyo Ravens

Ai Astin
Kaminai

Kazari, Uiharu
Toaru Kagaku no Railgun

Hanae, Natsuki

花江 夏樹

DOB: **June 26, 1991**
Kanagawa Prefecture

Blood Type: **B**

Current Roles…

Kanō, Shin'ichi
Outbreak Company

Kominato, Haruichi
Daiya no A

Sakishima, Hikari
Nagi no Asu Kara

Maeda, Atsuhiro
Tari Tari

Tomatsu, Haruka

戸松 遥

DOB: **February 4, 1990**
Ichinomiya, Aichi

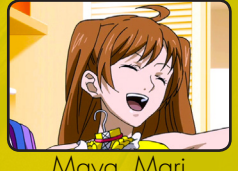
Blood Type: **B**

Current Roles…

Naruse, Ibara
Comppelion

Lune
Kaminomi

Kishi, Tōka
Yozakura Quartet



Maya, Mari
Samurai Flamenco

Ichiki, Mitsuhiro

市来 光弘

DOB: **January 10, 1982**
Kagoshima Prefecture

Blood Type: **A**

Current Roles…

Aoi, Kazuya
Freezing Vibration

Picardy
Hetalia: The Beautiful World

Kazami, Tomohiko
Another

Lias Falken
Atelier Meruru

# of Autumn 2013

Komatsu, Mikako
小松 未可子

DOB: **November 11, 1988**
Mie Prefecture

Blood Type: **B**

Current Roles…

Sei Iori
Gundam Build Fighters

Totsuka, Saika
OreGairu

Suzuno, Ito
Pretty Rhythm

Ulla Euleus Hecmatika
Kaminai

Horie, Yui
堀江 由衣

DOB: **September 20, 1976**
Katsushika, Tōkyō

Blood Type: **B**

Current Roles…

Kaga, Kōko
Golden Time

Miss Monochrome
Miss Monochrome

Nepgear-V
Chōjigen Geimu Neptunia

Nanami, Rion
Kakumeiki Valvrave

Kanemoto, Hisako
金元 寿子

DOB: **December 16, 1987**
Okayama Prefecture

Blood Type: **B**

Current Roles…

Saeki, Makoto
Gingitsune

Minamiya, Natsuki
Strike the Blood

Hokuto
Tokyo Ravens

Fukuoka, Moe
Sekai Ichiban!

Ishikawa, Kaito
石川 界人

DOB: **October 13, 1993**
Tōkyō

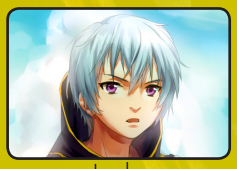
Blood Type: **AB**

Current Roles…

Yanagisawa, Mitsuo
Golden Time

Tsuchimikado, Harutora
Tokyo Ravens

Sōda, Manatsu
RDG Red Data Girl



Ledo
Suisei no Gargantia

Sakura, Ayane
佐倉 綾音

DOB: **January 29, 1994**
Tōkyō

Blood Type: **B**

Current Roles…

Koshigaya, Natsumi
Non Non Biyori

Gasper Vladi
High School DxD New

Yanase, Mei
Aiura

Mishima, Asuka
Kimi no Iru Machi

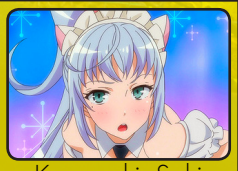
Koshimizu, Ami
小清水 亜美

DOB: **February 16, 1986**
Kokubunji, Tōkyō

Blood Type: **AB**

Current Roles…

Matoi, Ryōko
Kill la Kill



Kawasaki, Saki
OreGairu

Charles d'Artagnan
Hyakka Ryōran Samurai Girls

Kujō, Hinako
Devil Survivor 2

In Selected Theaters
January 2014
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YOU CAN (NOT) REDO.
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For Info Visit: www.elevenarts.net/evangelion3.html
FUNIMATION

Gundam Build Fighters: Ready, Set, Launch!

One of the most iconic anime known by many in the world of mecha fans is Gundam. There are many Gundam series but the most iconic and well known that started it all was *Mobile Suit Gundam*.

The series has come a long way from the original to the current show, *Gundam Build Fighters*. This new show has incorporated all of the mobile suits from every series. The only twist is, the mobile suits are plastic models and fans who build them can fight each other like a sport.

The story is about a young boy, Sei Iori, who is a talented mobile suit builder. His dream is to be just like his father, a talented competition mobile suit builder and pilot. Even though Sei has the competition skills to build great models, he does not have the piloting skills for tournaments. His family owns a hobby shop that is not well known because it is not in the business district but in the suburbs. He still has his eyes set to going into the world tournament with the mobile suits he builds.

Since Sei has the talent to build models, he encounters the mysterious Reiji who needed help. As a payment for Sei's kindness, Reiji gave him a small round green gem, that if he wishes, for help Reiji will come and save him. After Sei receives the gem, Reiji disappears from his sight.

The next day, Sei completes his newest custom model, Build Strike Gundam and displays it in the store. After he displays his new model, he is challenged to a battle with his new Gundam. As they begin to battle, Sei was overwhelmed and froze under the pressure. As Sei then closes his eyes and wished for help, Reiji appears and pilots Sei's Build Strike Gundam. As Reiji takes over the controls, he shows his unique talents for piloting that resembled Sei's fathers battle style. After Reiji wins, Sei decided from this point on that he found the right person to pilot his mobile suits.

This series is a tribute to all Gundam fans that it even has cameo appearances from Gundam lore such as Ramba Ral. It is a change of pace from the usual war stories from previous shows. The viewers may see once again in action of some well known mobiles suits/armor from different series. If you are a fan of any of any Gundam series, check this one out, maybe your favorite mobile suit is on there. So, GUNDAM FIGHT SET, READY, GO!!!!! ❖ Barrel Man Gundam

GAT-X105B/FP Build Strike Gundam Full Package

(L-R): China Kōsaka, Sei Iori & Reiji

Gundam Build Fighters
ガンダムビルドファイターズ
TV • October 7, 2013 - Ongoing
Sunrise

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gundam_Build_Fighters
en.gundam.info/topics/white/25860
gundam-bf.net
bandai-hobby.net/site/gunpla_buildfighters.html

Director: Nagasaki, Kenji
Producer: Ogawa, Masakazu
Shiraishi, Makoto
Writer: Kuroda, Yousuke

Cast:
Iori, Sei = Komatsu, Mikako
Reiji = Kokuryu, Sachi
Kōsaka, China = Ishikawa, Yui

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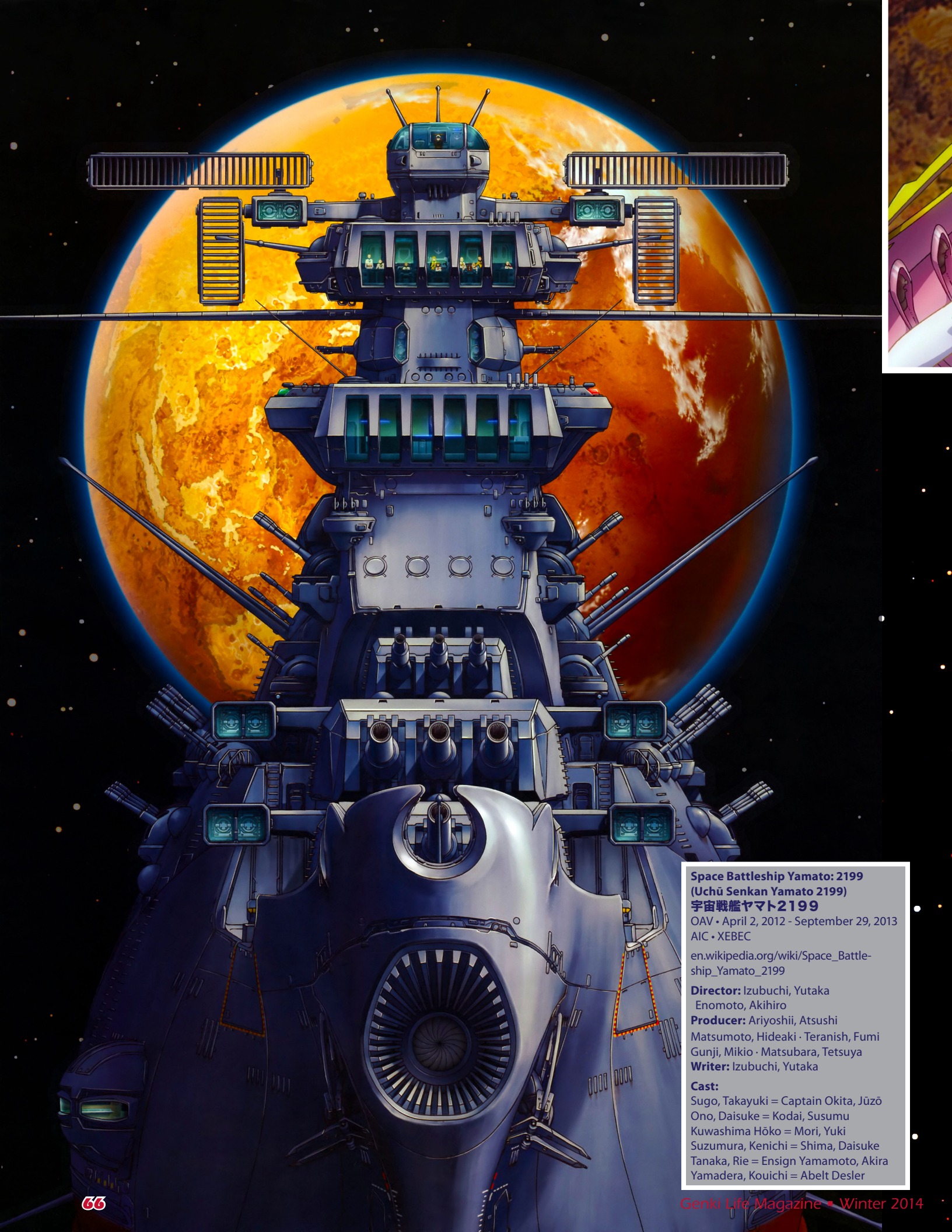
starmarie.sync1.jp

www.sxsw.com

Starmarie

It is the year 2194. The Gamilas began an invasion of Earth. The nations of Earth pool their forces and fight back, but their armies are defeated and most of humanity is wiped out.

宇宙戦艦
SPACE BATTLESHIP YAMATO 2199
2199
ヤマト



Space Battleship Yamato: 2199
(Uchū Senkan Yamato 2199)
宇宙戦艦ヤマト2199
OAV • April 2, 2012 - September 29, 2013
AIC • XEBEC

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Space_Battleship_Yamato_2199

Director: Izubuchi, Yutaka
Enomoto, Akihiro
Producer: Ariyoshii, Atsushi
Matsumoto, Hideaki · Teranish, Fumi
Gunji, Mikio · Matsubara, Tetsuya
Writer: Izubuchi, Yutaka

Cast:
Sugo, Takayuki = Captain Okita, Jūzō
Ono, Daisuke = Kodai, Susumu
Kuwashima Hōko = Mori, Yuki
Suzumura, Kenichi = Shima, Daisuke
Tanaka, Rie = Ensign Yamamoto, Akira
Yamadera, Kouichi = Abelt Desler

Most of you may know that *Space Battleship Yamato 2199* is a remake of the 1970's space opera by the same name (bar the 2199). If one were to make a comparison of its significance to its importance of the genre, it is basically the "*Star Wars* of Japan"—the series that one would point to as a culturally significant moment in entertainment and the rise of the genre itself.

In recent times, when one hears the word "remake" or "reboot," people tend to get wary. Audiences have reluctantly witnessed so many beloved series, stories and characters get butchered in misguided and unnecessary attempts to be recreated.

Thankfully, I am happy to say that *Yamato's* 21st century rebirth is done faithfully, respectfully, and masterfully.

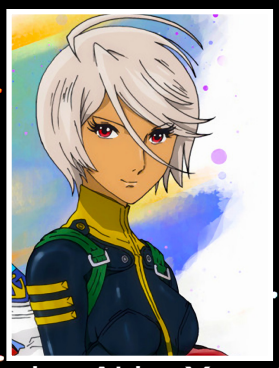
Yamato's story is timeless—the people of Earth are fighting back against an alien threat to bring their planet to slavery or extinction. Humanity's last hope lies in the crew of the battleship Yamato, its crew, and a mysterious technology brought to mankind from a distant alien race of people called "Iscandarians." Their destination—lightyears away, on the planet of Iscandar. In their path lie many obstacles, and every one a piece of the story and the puzzle. In this respect, *Yamato's* story is not difficult to understand, and is something you can appreciate at any age in any time. There are many developments and nuances that shape the story beyond its simple premise as the show develops, however. For the most part, it faithfully follows the original plot, and while I can't comment on specifics, I know enough to say that with confidence. It is not overly complicated or complex—there are also many things that are left to the imagination for the sake of not boring the audience. If you accept them for what they are

Captain Jūzō Okita

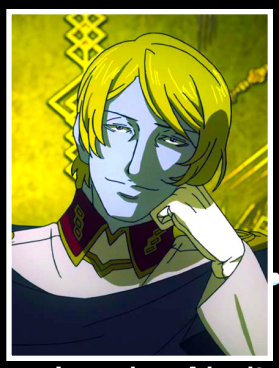
Lieutenant Susumu Kodai

Lieutenant Yuki Mori

Lieutenant Daisuke Shima



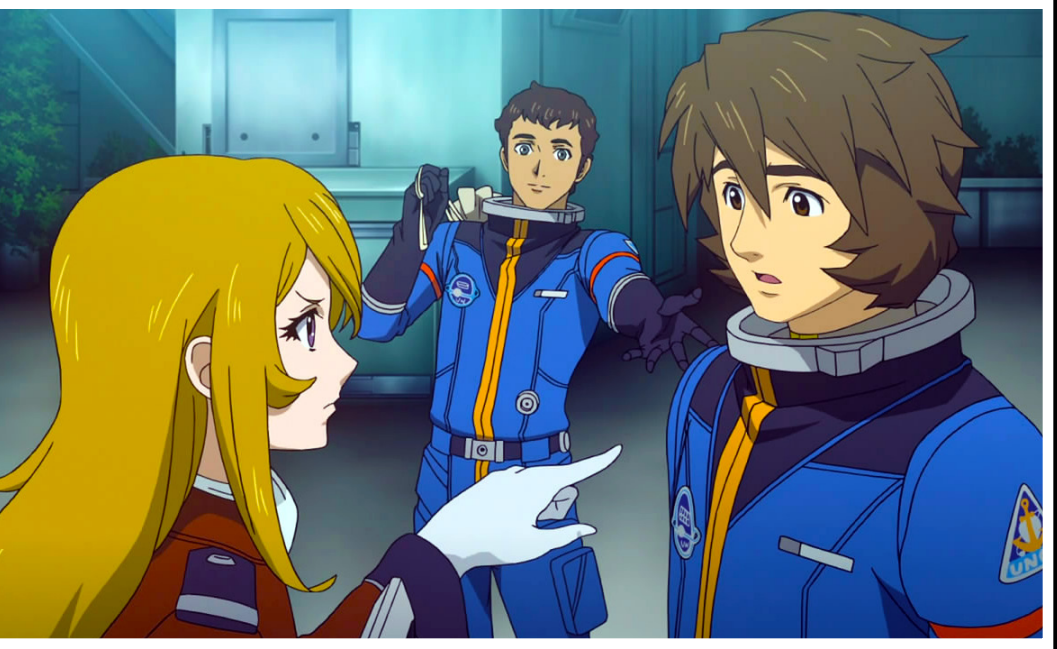
Ensign Akira Yamato



Supreme Leader Abelt Desler

and don't complicate them, it is, for the most part, flawless. This is, after all, a fictional universe.

There has been some fuss over the stylistic changes from the original Leiji [Matsumoto] style of *Yamato* to the remake. However, I find them to be a perfect blend of the retro style and modern style—which still brings an incredibly refreshing artistic flair to *Yamato* that isn't seen anywhere today. Even if one were to miss the original style, I think it would be impossible to truly recreate it exactly unless you had all the original animation staff, and that is too much to ask for a 40-year-old series. [Yuki] Nobuteru did an excellent job of revisiting the style of Leiji and bringing it to a modern audience.

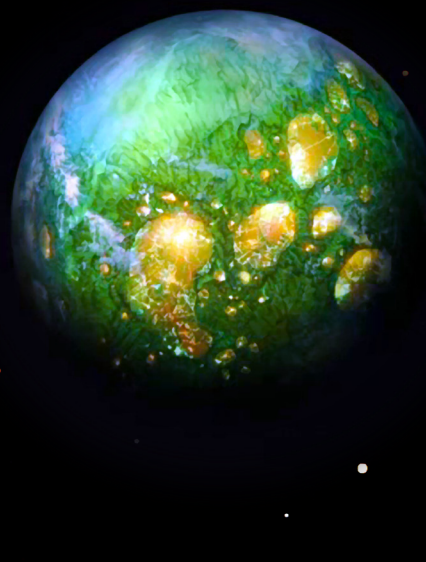


The animation is absolutely stunning. It's quite obvious there was a high budget for the series, and they use it in all the right places. Let's be honest—in the '70s, many of the technical challenges that came with animating epic, large-scale space battles were difficult to tackle with the technology of the time. While many are impressive, it's easy to see where they struggled to achieve their true vision. In *2199*, the ships are 3D models, and CGI comes heavily into play during battle scenes. There was a time that this spelled bad news for mixing with 2D animation, when CGI suffered from a "video game cutscene" syndrome. But with today's technology, *2199*'s CGI is absolutely stunning, and blends beautifully with the show and the backgrounds. Every ship is masterfully crafted and detailed, and every nuance of the ships and the weaponry is nothing short of perfection. The excitement of every battle scene leaves you speechless. Fans of spaceships, fighter jets and miscellaneous mechanical things will be filled with nothing but glee.

The character and 2D animation is equally as important, and is treated that way. There's a lot of expressiveness in every character, and it shows. There's a bit of fanservice and moe here and there, but nothing overdone. *Yamato* takes itself seriously when it has to, but it also has a bit of fun here and there.

The music and SFX adds another layer of immersion to the world of *Yamato*. The soundtrack is a lot of re-recordings of original *Yamato* tracks, with that 1970's sci-fi trumpets and backing vocals that many may remember fondly. If not, it's something that you hear very rarely these days, and is absolutely perfect for this series. It's enough that the opening is one of those songs you just can't skip—the rest of the soundtrack is equally inspiring.

The sound effects, voices and ambi-



ance is also well done. My favorite bits are definitely the sounds of the ships and the weapons during battle. There's nothing quite like hearing a flurry of lasers, rockets and explosions—and of course, the awe-inspiring Wave Motion Gun.

The characters of *Yamato* are stunning examples of common archetypes. There are brave heroes, loyal comrades, tragic, misguided villains, and every-thing in between. There is a very large cast of *Yamato*, so I won't dive into every character, but while many characters may seem stereotypical at first glance, *Yamato* never attempts to clearly define the difference between good and evil—at times, you will sympathize with the enemy, and you will question the motives of the heroes. It's one of those important aspects that helps separate the wheat from the chaff in this aspect. Still, there is a very classical story at hand, and with it come classic characters. But they are not as hollow and predictable as one more cynical may come to believe.

Overall, there is not much more to say. I gave enjoyment a 10/10 because I always found myself looking forward to the next episode of *Yamato*—and when they came (the waits were quite long for those following the series release), they were over so soon because I enjoyed every moment.

It is quite clear that the creators of *Yamato 2199* had great respect for the source material and made every effort to craft a remake worthy of the name *Uchū Senkan Yamato*. And in every aspect I would say they succeeded, and brought a story that deserves to be retold to a new era, taking advantage of the tools they have today that its original creators did not to remake *Yamato* in its full glory. And although the eye-candy visuals of space warfare are a spectacle in their own right, *Yamato 2199* never loses sight of the story it is trying to tell and the cast that we want to root for, which is where many remakes of this era falter.

This is a very rare and important piece of animation history—one that I believe deserves to be viewed and appreciated by everyone. I would recommend this series to absolutely anyone, even if they are not fans of sci-fi. If you want an example of a remake done right—this is it. ❖ rhl

Sacramento's Anime Convention

SACANIME

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Sacramento Convention Center

www.sacanime.com

Huge Exhibitor Room ★ Cosplay Masquerade ★ Late Night Electronic Dance
Karaoke Room ★ Live Music ★ Cafe Hoshi ★ Starlight Ball ★ Free Autographs
Panels/Workshops ★ Table Top Gaming ★ Anime Viewing Room ★ Art Contests
AMV Contest ★ Artist Alley ★ Charity Raffle ★ Photo Booths ★ Family Friendly
Video Game Room ★ Lolita Tea Party ★ Swap Meet ★ Thousands of Costumed Fans

Upcoming Anime DVD/Blu-Ray Releases

Winter 2014

December 24

Humanity Has Declined: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $49.98 MSRP • Sub

Humanity Has Declined: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

Say, "I love you.": Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $59.98 MSRP

Say, "I love you.": Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $69.98 MSRP

December 31

Chrono Crusade: Complete Collection (S.A.V.E. Edition)
FUNimation
DVD • $29.98 MSRP

Dragon Ball Z: Season 1 Collection
FUNimation
Blu-ray • $44.98 MSRP

Fate/Zero LE Blu-ray Box Set II
Aniplex of America
DVD • $174.98 MSRP • 1st Press

Fate/Zero: Complete 2nd Season
Aniplex of America
DVD • $74.98 MSRP

Ikki Tousen - Great Guardians: Complete Collection
FUNimation
DVD • $59.98 MSRP

Nyan Koi!: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $59.98 MSRP • Bilingual

Nyan Koi!: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $69.98 MSRP

OniAi: Complete Collection (LE)
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $49.98 MSRP • Sub

Say I Can't Play H!: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $49.98 MSRP • Sub

Say I Can't Play H!: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

January 7

Aria the Natural: Season 2 Collection, Part 1 (Litebox)
TRSI/Nozomi Entertainment
DVD • $39.99 MSRP • Sub

LAGRANGE -The Flower of Rin-ne-: Set 2
Viz Media
DVD • $44.82 MSRP

LAGRANGE -The Flower of Rin-ne-: Set 2
Viz Media
Blu-ray • $54.97 MSRP

Monster Rancher: Season 1 Collection
Discotek Media
DVD • $49.95 MSRP • Dub

Patlabor The Mobile Police (TV: Collection 4)
Maiden Japan
DVD • $59.98 MSRP

Patlabor The Mobile Police (TV: Collection 4)
Maiden Japan
Blu-ray • $69.98 MSRP

Kaede Mizuno — Nyan Koi!

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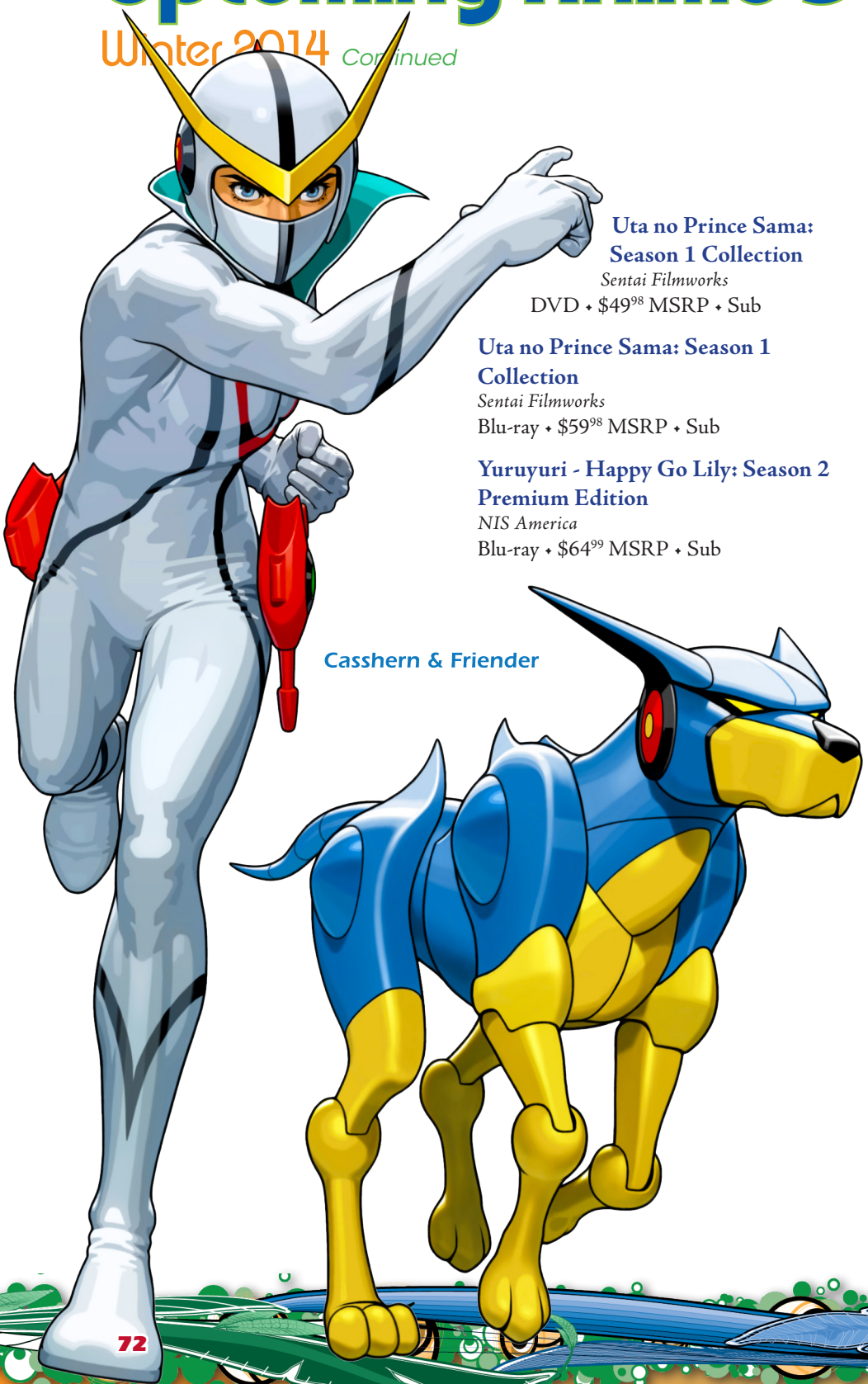
Upcoming Anime DVD/Blu-Ray

Winter 2014 Continued



Uta no Prince Sama: Season 1 Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $49.98 MSRP • Sub

Uta no Prince Sama: Season 1 Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

Yuruyuri - Happy Go Lily: Season 2 Premium Edition
NIS America
Blu-ray • $64.99 MSRP • Sub

Casshern & Friender

January 14

Digimon - Digital Monsters: Season 2, Vol.5
New Video Group
DVD • $19.95 MSRP

Magi: The Labyrinth of Magic, Vol.1
Aniplex of America
DVD • $74.98 MSRP

Naruto Shippuden: Set 17
Viz Media
DVD • $44.82 MSRP

One Piece: Season 5, Part 5
FUNimation
DVD • $39.98 MSRP

Taisho Baseball Girls: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

Unico Double Feature
Discotek Media
Blu-ray • $29.95 MSRP

Yu-Gi-Oh!: Season 3 Collection
New Video Group
DVD • $44.95 MSRP • Dub

Yu-Gi-Oh!: Season 3, Vol.1
New Video Group
DVD • $24.95 MSRP • Dub

Yu-Gi-Oh!: Season 3, Vol.2
New Video Group
DVD • $24.95 MSRP • Dub

January 21

Blue Submarine No.6: Complete Collection
Discotek Media
Blu-ray • $29.95 MSRP

Releases

Casshan: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $49.98 MSRP • Sub

Casshan: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

Medaka Box Abnormal: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $59.98 MSRP

Medaka Box Abnormal: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $69.98 MSRP

January 28

Maria Holic: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $59.98 MSRP • Bilingual

Maria Holic: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $69.98 MSRP

Nura - Rise of the Yokai Clan: Demon Capital: Set 1
Viz Media
DVD • $44.82 MSRP

Nura - Rise of the Yokai Clan: Demon Capital: Set 1
Viz Media
Blu-ray • $54.97 MSRP

February 4

AKB0048 next stage (Season 2): Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $59.98 MSRP

AKB0048 next stage (Season 2): Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $69.98 MSRP

Antique Bakery: Complete Collection (Litebox)
TRSI/Nozomi Entertainment
DVD • $39.99 MSRP • Sub

Blessing of the Campanella: Complete Collection
TRSI/Lucky Penny
DVD • $49.99 MSRP • Sub

Fairy Tail, Part 8
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $54.98 MSRP

Fruits Basket: Complete Collection (Anime Classics)
FUNimation
DVD • $49.98 MSRP

Tenkai Knights: Rise of the Knights
Phase 4 Films
DVD • $9.99 MSRP • Dub

Wagnaria!! 2: Complete Series Premium Edition
NIS America
Blu-ray • $64.99 MSRP • Sub

Popura Taneshima, Mahiru Inami, Yachiyo Todoroki & Aoi Yamada — Wagnaria!! 2

The information presented here is as accurate as much as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.

Upcoming Anime DVD/Blu-Ray

Winter 2014 *Continued*

February 11

Kamisama Kiss: Complete Collection
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $54.98 MSRP

Kamisama Kiss: Goddess Edition Premium Box Set
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $129.98 MSRP • First Press

MM!: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $59.98 MSRP • Bilingual

MM!: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $69.98 MSRP

Magi: The Labyrinth of Magic

Strike Witches: Season 1 Collection (S.A.V.E. Edition)
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $24.98 MSRP

Strike Witches: Season 2 Collection (S.A.V.E. Edition)
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $24.98 MSRP

February 18

Dragon Ball Z: Season 2 Collection
FUNimation
Blu-ray • $44.98 MSRP

Evangelion: 3.33 You Can (Not) Redo
FUNimation
DVD • $29.98 MSRP

Evangelion: 3.33 You Can (Not) Redo
FUNimation
Blu-ray • $34.98 MSRP

Hidamari Sketch: Season 1 Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP

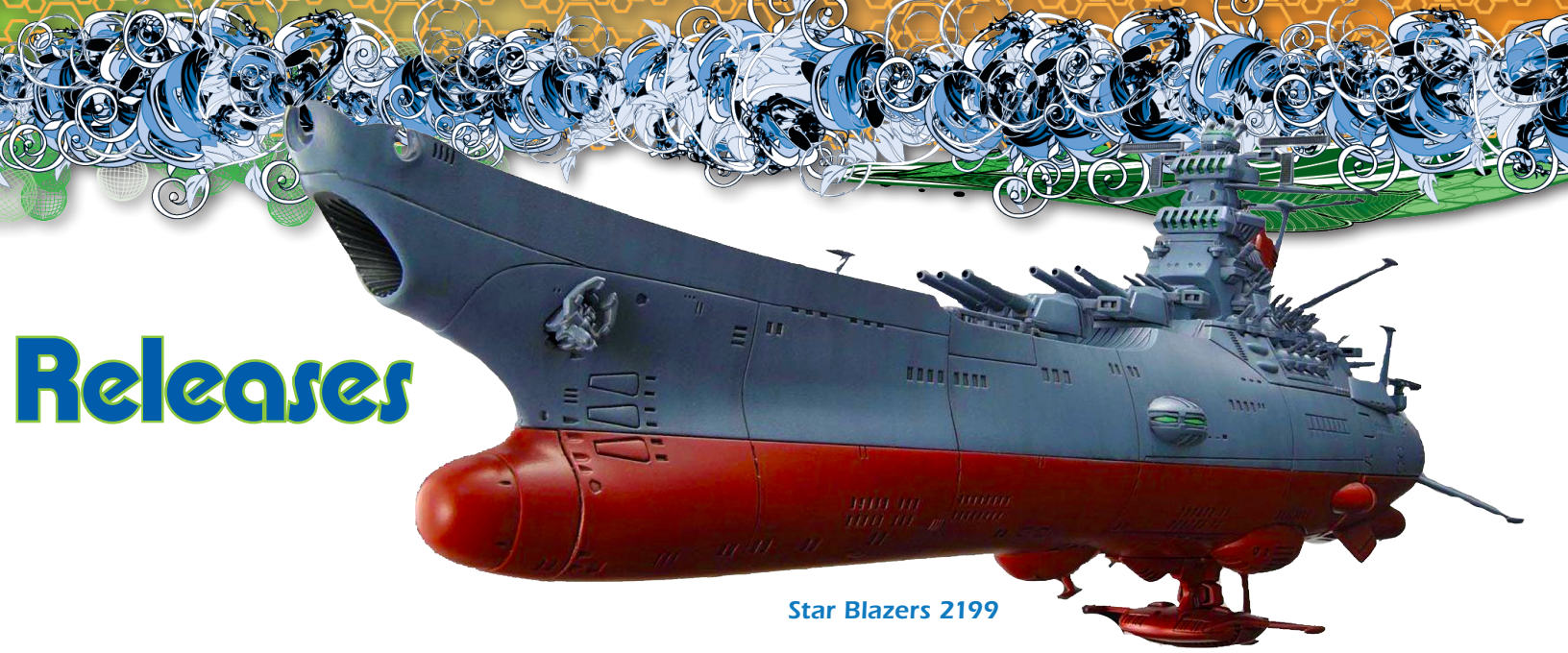
Jormungand: Season 1 Collection
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $64.98 MSRP

Jormungand: Season 2 Collection
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $64.98 MSRP

Naruto Shippuden the Movie 5: Blood Prison
Viz Media
DVD • $19.98 MSRP

Naruto Shippuden the Movie 5: Blood Prison
Viz Media
Blu-ray • $24.98 MSRP

Releases



Star Blazers 2199

Robotics;Notes, Part 1
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $64.98 MSRP

Robotics;Notes, Part 1 (LE)
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $69.98 MSRP • First Press

Time Bokan: Royal Revival
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $19.98 MSRP

Time Bokan: Royal Revival
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $29.98 MSRP

February 25

Appleseed XII: Tartaros & Ouranos
FUNimation
DVD • $29.98 MSRP

Appleseed XII: Tartaros & Ouranos
FUNimation
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $34.98 MSRP

Blast of Tempest: Complete 2nd Season
Aniplex of America
DVD • $74.98 MSRP • Sub

Di Gi Charat: Winter Garden
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $24.98 MSRP • Sub

Girls & Panzer: Complete OVA Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $29.98 MSRP

Girls & Panzer: Complete OVA Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $39.98 MSRP

K: The Complete Series
Viz Media
DVD • $44.82 MSRP

K: The Complete Series (LE)
Viz Media
Blu-ray/DVD Combo • $69.99 MSRP • First Press

Ladies versus Butlers!: Complete Collection
Media Blasters
DVD • $39.98 MSRP

Love, Election & Chocolate: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $49.98 MSRP • Sub

Love, Election & Chocolate: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

February 27

Star Blazers 2199, Vol. 1
Voyager Entertainment USA
DVD • $34.99 MSRP • Sub

Star Blazers 2199, Vol. 1
Voyager Entertainment USA
Blu-ray • $44.99 MSRP • Sub

March 4

Aria the Natural: Season 2 Collection, Part 2 (Litebox)
TRSI/Nozomi Entertainment
DVD • $49.99 MSRP • Sub

Myself; Yourself: Complete Collection
Maiden Japan
DVD • $49.98 MSRP • Sub

Nadia - The Secret of Blue Water (TV): Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $79.98 MSRP

Nadia - The Secret of Blue Water (TV): Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $99.98 MSRP

Space Adventure Cobra: The Original TV Series, Part 1
TRSI/Nozomi Entertainment
DVD • $49.99 MSRP • Sub

March 11

Digimon - Digital Monsters: Season 2, Vol. 6
Cinedigm
DVD • $19.95 MSRP • Dub

Digimon Data Squad: Season 5 Collection
Cinedigm
DVD • $79.95 MSRP • Dub

The Pet Girl of Sakurasou: Collection 2
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $49.98 MSRP • Sub

The Pet Girl of Sakurasou: Collection 2
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $59.98 MSRP • Sub

March 18

Magi: The Labyrinth of Magic, Vol.2
Aniplex of America
DVD • $79.98 MSRP

To Love Ru: Season 1 Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $89.98 MSRP • Sub

UPOTTE!!: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
DVD • $59.98 MSRP

UPOTTE!!: Complete Collection
Sentai Filmworks
Blu-ray • $69.98 MSRP

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Tabletop Gaming, Panel Progamming, Rave, Maid Cafe, & more!
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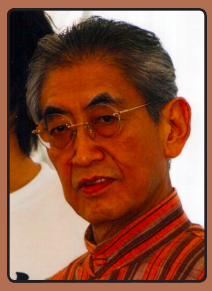
Remembering Who Have Passed

Taniguchi, Takashi *Seiyū*
July 5, 1946 Ōhira, Tochigi
December 27, 2012
One Piece (1999) as Montblanc Cricket
Hellsing (2001) as Harry Anders
Shinshaku Sengoku Eiyū Densetsu - Sanada Jū Yūshi The Animation (2005) as Awa-no-kami Masayuki Sanada

Ōshima, Nagisa
Live-Action/Anime Film Director
March 31, 1932 Kyōto
Jan 15, 2013 Fujisawa
Ninja Bugeicho (1967)
Ai no Corrida (a1976)
Ai no Bōrei (1978)



Kameyama, Sukekiyo *Seiyū*
Nov 9, 1954 Ishinomaki, Miyagi, Saitama
Jan 26, 2013 Sakado, Saitama
Tokusō Kihei Dorvack (1983) as Pierre Bonaparte
Mahō no Yōsei Persia (1984) as Meso Meso
Gozonji! Gekkō Kamen-kun (1999) as Ghost

Nishi, Yūji *Mangaka*
February 6, 2013
Kura no Yado (1999)
Andō Natsu - Edo Wagashi Shokunin Monogatari (2006)
Minna no Bus (2007)

Ikeda, Tōyō
Producer
March 10, 1973
February 17, 2013
Gate Keepers (2000)
Kaleido Star (2003)
Romeo × Juliet (2007)

Honda, Chieko *Seiyū*
March 28, 1963 Nagano
February 18, 2013
Kidō Senshi Gundam ZZ (1986) as Elpeo Ple; Ple Two
Kimagure Orange Road (1987) as Kurumi Kasuga
Soul Eater (2008) as Marie Mjolnir

Shimamura, Kaoru (Takahashi, Hiroko)
Seiyū
April 15, 1969 Kanagawa, Yokohama
February 26, 2013 Yokohama
Gall Force: Shin Seiki Hen (1991) as Diamond
Devil Lady (1998) as Ran Asuka
Kōkaku no Regios (2009) as Ramis

Katsumi, Shigeru (Tsumura, Seiya)
Singer
December 25, 1937 Miyazaki, Gunma
February 27, 2013
"Sasurai" - 8 Man (1963)

Naya, Gorō *Seiyū*
November 17, 1029 Hakodate, Hokkaidō
March 5, 2013
Lupin III (1971) as Inspector Zenigata
Uchū Senkan Yamato (1977) as Jūzō Okita
Kaze no Tani no Nausicaä (1984) as Yupa

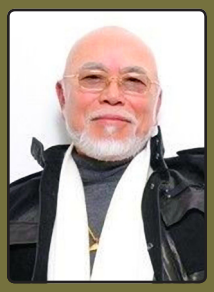
Takishita, Tsuyoshi *Seiyū*
November 5, 1975 Ikaraki
March 10, 2013
Denji Sentai Megaranger (1997) as Carlos Vallertes
Shin Sangokumusō (1993-) as Sima Yi
One Piece (1999) as Black Cat Pirate

Yamaguchi, Noboru *Author*
February 11, 1972 Hitachi, Ibaraki
April 4, 2013
Green Green (2002)
Zero no Tsukaima (2006)
Zero no Chukaima: Yōchien Nano! (2010)

Hakozaki, Isuka *Mangaka*
January 1, 1986 Minamishimabara, Nagasaki
April 22, 2013
Caterpillar (2012)

Isono, Hirō *Illustrator/Painter*
1945 Aichi
May 28, 2013
Seiken Densetsu: Final Fantasy Gaiden (1991)
Seiken Densetsu: HEROES of MANA (2007)

Ishimori, Takkō *Seiyū*
January 11, 1932 Hashima, Nagasaki
June 5, 2013
Chōjikū Seiki Orguss (1983) as Roberto
One Piece (1999) as Sengoku
Eureka Seven (2005) as Gonzy



Utsumi, Kenji *Seiyū*
August 26, 1937 Kitakyushu, Fukuoka
June 13, 2013 Shinjuku, Tōkyō
Hokuto no Ken (1984) as Raoh
Dragon Ball (1986) as Shen Long
Macross Plus (1994) as Col. Millard Johnson

Yasuda *Mangaka*
1989
June 26, 2013 Tōkyō
Kana-chan Tsukareteru!! (2012)
Ageha Chō Aishiteru (2011)
Kotori mo Nakazuba Zenpen (2013)

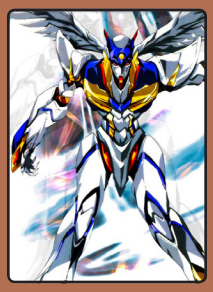
Nakamura, Ryūtarō *Director*
April 15, 1955
June 29, 2013
Space Cobra (1982)
Jū'ichinin Iru (1986)
Serial Experiments Lain (1998)

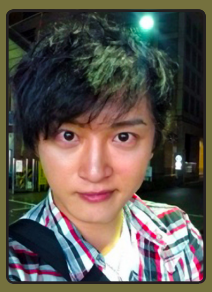
Kagemaru, Joya (Minoru Kubomoto)
Mangka
January 3, 1940 Minato, Ōsaka
April 5, 2012 ?
WARU (1977)

Ogawa, Hiroshi
Character Designer/Director
1951 Tōkyō
August 7, 2013
Shin Taketori Monogatari 1,000-nen Joō (1981)
Maison Ikkoku (1986)
Crayon Shin Chan (1992)

Sadogawa, Jun (Kawahito, Mutsumi)
Mangaka
1979 Kitasoma
August 13, 2013 Tone, Ibaraki
Muteki Kanban Musume Napalm (2006)
Muteki Kanban Musume (2006)
Wild Momo (2012)

Kaneko, Ryuichi *Writer*
1956
August 31, 2013
Gene Diver (1994)
RahXephon (2002)
Element Hunters (2009)

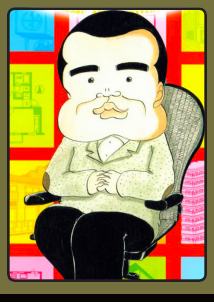




Sakurazuka, Yakkun (Saitō, Yasuo)
Comedian/Seiyū
September 24, 1976 Yokohama, Kanagawa
October 5, 2013 Mine, Yamaguchi
Case Closed (1996) as Satan Onizuka
Full Moon o Sagashite (2002) as Takuto Kira
Zettai Shonen (2005) as Ryōsuke Sakakura

Dan, Tomoyuki (Tanaka, Yoshio)
Stage/Seiyū
August 6, 1963 Osaka
October 10, 2013
Kidō Senshi Victory Gundam (1993) as Cronicle Asher
Bleach (2004) as Yokochini
Naruto Shippūden (2007) as Kisame Hoshigaki

Yanase, Takashi *Mangaka*
February 6, 1919 Kami, Kōchi
October 13, 2013 Tōkyō
Yasashii Lion (1970)
Soreike! Anpanman (1988)
Hal no Fue (2011)



Kazama, Yanwari *Mangaka*
June 13, 1977 Itabashi, Tōkyō
October 22, 2013
Taberemasen (1995)
Atsushi Watanabe no Tanbō Biyori (2003)
Kaki Nige Yanwari (2007)

STEVE DOWNES

JEN TAYLOR

STEVE BLUM

ASHLY BURCH

VIC MIGNOGNA

BRINA PALENCIA

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Anime Character Information

Art by Duffyknight2005

January Birthdays

1

Ōtomo, Jōji
Future GPX Cyber Formula

Rukawa, Kaede
Slam Dunk

3

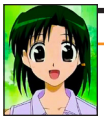
Linn Regiostar
Hayate no Gotoku

Tōdō, Kyoshiro
Code Geass: Hangyaku no Rurūshu

4

Urashima, Keitarō
Love Hina

7



Ichijō, Karen
School Rumble

9

Kaoru, Kyōnosuke
Hayate no Gotoku

11

Shiraume, Ume
Ben-To

13

Cornelia Li Britannia
Code Geass: Hangyaku no Rurūshu

Sasahara, Kanji
Genshiken

14

Ōmori, Nene
Beelzebub

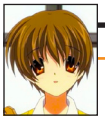
Tōjō, Aya
Ichigo 100%

15

Nakao, Heikichi
Lovely Complex

17

Ogata, Seiji
Hikaru no Go



18

Ibuki, Kōko
Clannad

19

Gaara
Naruto

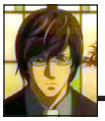
23

Aburame, Shino
Naruto

Christopher Rosette
Chrno Crusade

25

Sakuraba, Hikaru
Lucky Star



Midō, Shingo
Death Note

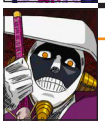
28

Heiwajima, Shizuo
Durarara!!

29

Yakimura, Anzu
D.C. Da Capo

30



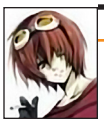
Kurotsuchi, Mayuri
Bleach

31

Kasai
Gift: Eternal Rainbow

The information presented here is as accurate as humanly possible and is subject to change without notice.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



1
Matt/Mail Jeevas
Death Note

2
Lloyd Asplund
Code Geass: Hangyaku no Rurūshu

4
Suzuki, Ryōji
Lovely Complex

5
Hisaya, Miki
Beelzebub

6
Mewtwo
Pokémon

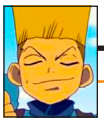
Nico Robin
One Piece

8
Sarutobi, Hiruzen
Naruto

10
Tsuruga, Ren
Skip Beat

11
Suì-Fēng
Bleach

12
Kusajishi, Yachiru
Bleach



14
Yoshidayama, Jirō
School Rumble

Mizukoshi, Mako
D.C. Da Capo

15
Ishima, Ryūken
Maria†Holic

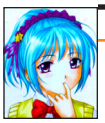
17
Folken Lakue de Fanel
Tenkū no Escaflowne

18
Igarashi, Tora
Kaichō wa Maid-sama!

Lidner Halle
Death Note

21
Beacha Oleag
Kidō Senshi Gundam ZZ

22
Heiwajima, Kasuka
Durarara!!



24
Kuruno, Kurumu
Rosario + Vampire

25
Harunobu, Madarame
Genshiken

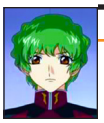
Ward Zaback
Final Fantasy VIII

27
Hino, Kahoko
Kin'iro no Corda

28
Sawachika, Eri
School Rumble

29
Haninozuka, Mitsukuni
Ōran Kōkō Host Club

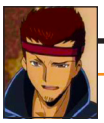
MARCH BIRTHDAYS



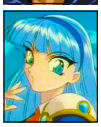
1
Nicol Amarfi
Kidō Senshi Gundam SEED

2
Clair Fortlan
Future GPX Cyber Formula

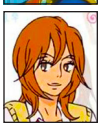
Kuruma, Chidori
Ayashi no Ceres



3
Tamaki, Shin'ichirō
Code Geass: Hangyaku no Rurūshu



Ryūzaki, Umi
Mahō Kishi Rayearth



Ayane, Yano
Kimi ni Todoke

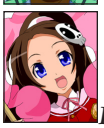
5
Ōsaki, Nana
Nana

8
Mirai Yashima
Kidō Senshi Gundam

10
Kanzaki, Azusa
Mamono Hunter Yōko

14
Ishida, Ryūken
Bleach

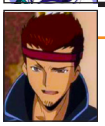
Ayase, Yūto
Nogizaka Haruka no Himitsu



Elucia de Lute Irma
Kami Nomi zo Shiru Sekai

15
Momomiya, Ichigo
Tōkyō Mew Mew

16
Amakase, Miharu
D.C. Da Capo



18
Ōgi, Kaname
Code Geass: Hangyaku no Rurūshu

20
Morino, Ibiki
Naruto

23
Tsukamoto, Yakumo
School Rumble

25
Ōtani, Atsushi
Lovely Complex

28
Tennōji, Noboru
School Rumble

Ogiue, Chika
Genshiken

29
Dearka Elthman
Kidō Senshi Gundam SEED

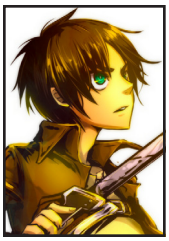
30
Kurotsuchi, Nemu
Bleach

31
Minamito, Yui
Ichigo 100%

31
Nagase, Junichi
Akane-iro ni Somaru Saka

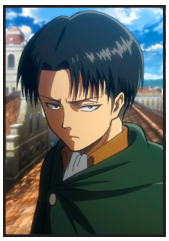
Top Male Ranking†

1
Araragi, Koyomi
阿良々木 暦
Monogatari Series

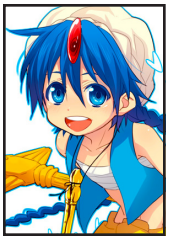


2
Eren Jaeger
エレン・イェーガー
Shingeki no Kyojin

3
Kira Yamato
キラ・ヤマト
Kidō Senshi Gundam SEED



4
Levi
リヴァイ
Shingeki no Kyojin



5
Alladin
アラジン
Magi: The Labyrinth of Magic

6
Kamijō, Tōma
上条 当麻
Toaru Kagaku no Chōdenjihō S

7
Kokutō, Mikiya
黒桐幹也
Kara no Kyōkai

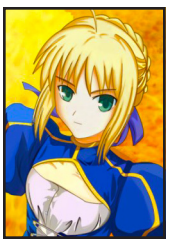
8
Kirigaya, Kazuto
桐ヶ谷 和人
Sword Art Online

9
Orimura, Ichika
織斑 一夏
IS <Infinite Stratos>2

10
Monkey D. Luffy
モンキー・D・ルフィ
One Piece

Top Female Ranking†

1
Akemi, Homura
暁美 ほむら
Mahō Shōjo Madoka Magika



2
Saber Arturia Pendragon
セイバー・アルトリア・ペンドラゴン
Fate/zero

3
Mikasa Ackerman
ミカサ・アッカーマン
Shingeki no Kyojin

4
Kaname, Madoka
鹿目 まどか
Mahō Shōjo Madoka Magika

5
Ryōgi, Shiki
両儀式
Kara no Kyōkai

6
Sengoku, Nadeko
千石 撫子
Monogatari Series

7
Oshino, Shinobu
忍野 忍
Monogatari Series

8
Matoi, Ryūko
纏 流子
Kill la Kill

9
Morgiana
モルジアナ
Magi: The Labyrinth of Magic

10
Hanekawa, Tsubasa
羽川 翼
Monogatari Series

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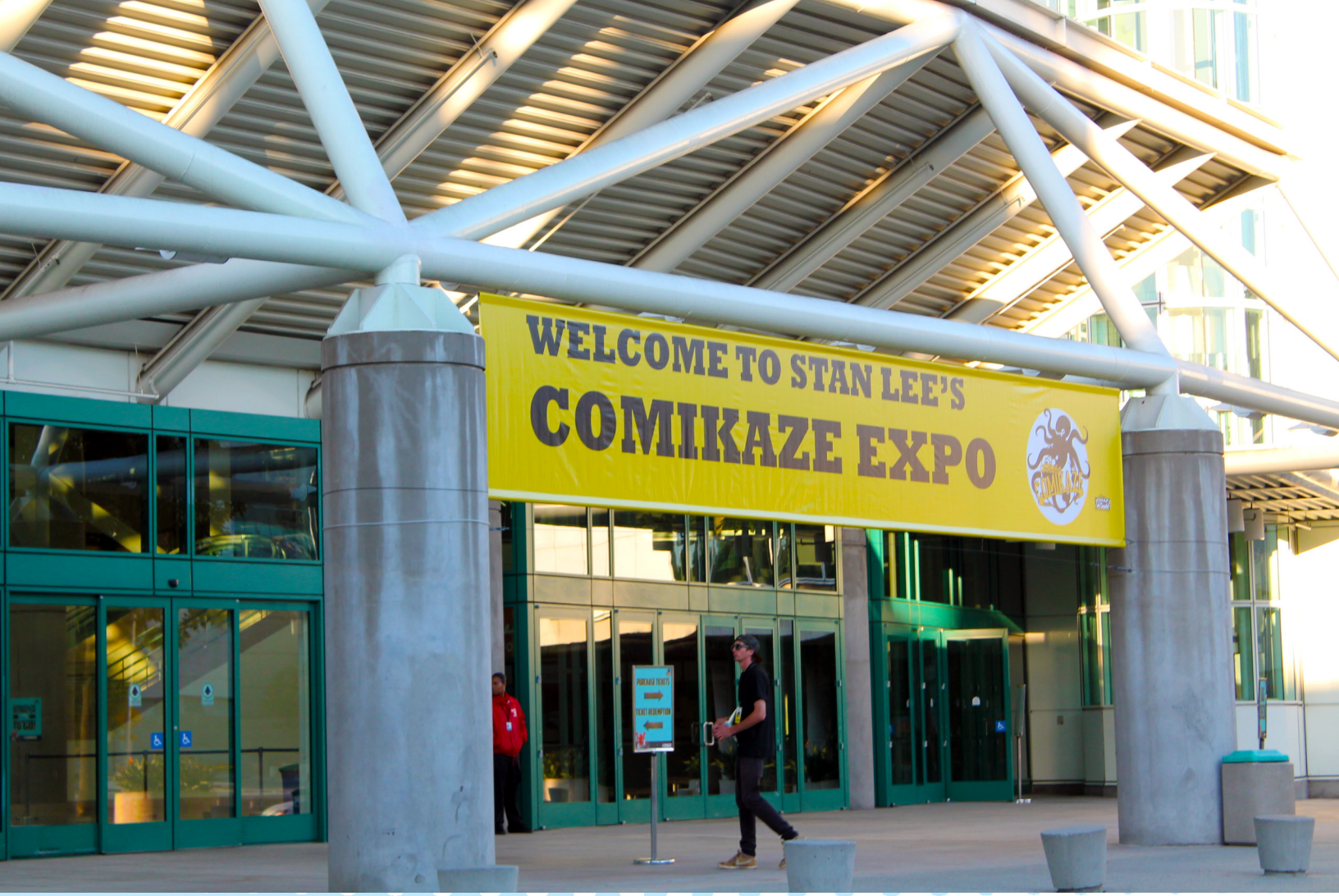
A Day at Stan Lee's...



We first heard of Comikaze Expo two summers ago. It was one of the conventions that took place between our exhausting summer conventions and our fun autumn/winter conventions. Also, it was a new con, so we though, so we didn't think it was that big. We talked about it and didn't go that year. Fast forward a several months. In late summer, aired this reality show on SyFy called *Fangasm*. It had a cast of six "fans" that interned to get jobs at Stan Lee's Comikaze Expo. Watching the show piqued my interest into going to the convention for the very time. We made time for that Saturday to make the arduous trip to downtown Los Angeles.

We arrived at the Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC) fairly early. The reasoning for this, we thought, as poplar as Comikaze Expo was, that there could be a large crowd already waiting in line for registration. This thinking was from experiences at other conventions held at the LACC. We were proven completely wrong.

The parking structure looked like it was filling up fairly quickly as we exited the freeway right off the convention center. Upon paying the "highway robbery-rate" parking fee, we parked fairly close to the lobby entrance, as it may. Only that morning, I planned on cosplaying. I changed into my Kodai Susumu (Derek Wildstar) of *Space Battleship Yamato* Movie cosplay uniform in the parking structure. Good that it was completely devoid of people at that time.

Tim and I walked over to South Hall Lobby entrance. We expected a somewhat huge crowd as went up the escalator. While ascending up the escalator, I noticed and eerie silence. At the floor level, we were greeted by ushers who pointed us to the registration area. Aside from that, where was the expected crowd? None at all—inside LACC and outside.

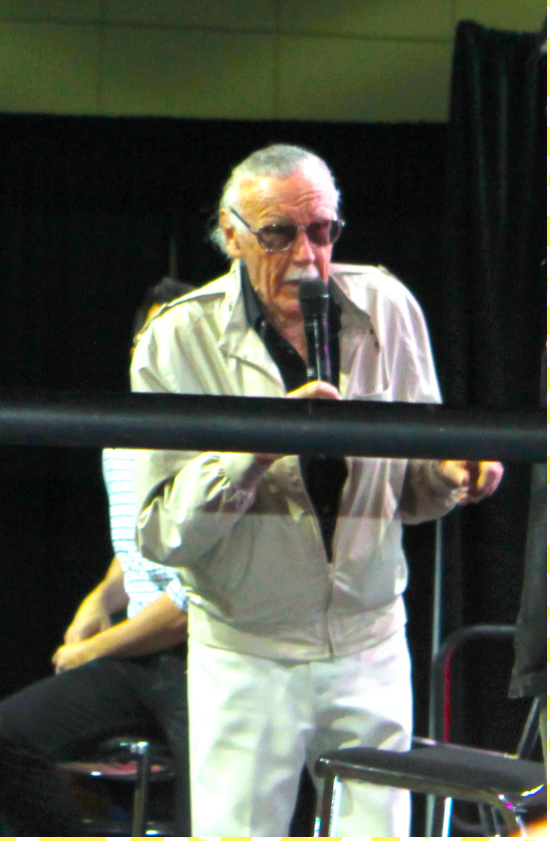
We went outside and walked around the east side of the LACC to where, at AX there would be a herd of people in line to get in. Again—nobody. The staff directed up directly to the entrance where Tim and I picked up our badges.

The process was so simple and speedy that where was no wait time at all. AX should learn from this highly efficient process.

There was plenty of time before the actual convention started. All the attendees were directed up the stairs to Hall G. "So that's where the crowd was!" Hall G "contained" all the attendees before the opening of the convention. Instead of waiting with the "herd," we went back downstairs, outside the convention center, to get some fresh air where there were no people and check up on our groups' arrival times. That's when we made our attack plan for the con—not! About ten minutes before Comikaze started, we went back inside to Hall G. People were already being let in the convention area. We just followed the crowed at this point.

Being this early in the morning, though it seemed that where was a lot of people, the crowed dispersed to parts unknown leaving the main convention areas sparse. We made good use of this time to look around for merchandise before more and more started arriving. Hey, I bought my first *Star Wars* t-shirt.

For the size of the convention, there was a lot going on the convention floor. On the south side of South Hall, where the actual convention took place, was the main stage sponsored by Hot Topic. Why? I don't know. Along the south to the west where the autograph signing areas. To east side, where Hall G is located, are the dining areas. And, of course, north are the main entrances and exits.



Though the main stage was located centrally on the convention floor, the set-up could have been better. This is where all the main events took place, such as the costume show later on that evening. Sure there wasn't a lot room left on the convention floor, but with the number of attendees, there should have been seating for the main stage. That's right—there were no seats. At a couple of the main events, we were standing up for minutes upon minutes during the duration of the events. Whether this was the norm for Comikaze, I didn't know being our first time there.

The autograph areas were really organized. There were aisles corded off for each guest autograph table with staff members controlling lines extending out of the corded aisles for the more "popular" guests. Some of the celebrities I saw were Adrian Paul (*The Highlander*), Dean Cain (*Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman*), Lou Farrigno (*The Incredible Hulk*), "Weird Al" Yankovic (*UHF*), Cassandra Peterson (Elvira, Mistress of the Dark), Jordan Hembrough (*Toy Hunter*) and a few others. You can't forget about Stan Lee, whom we saw at a couple of the main events earlier in the day at the main stage. At an afternoon event, Mr. Lee unveiled his new upcoming animated superhero show for the HUB Network, *Stan Lee and the Mighty Seven*. It was just a rebranding of his other creations, but from outer space!

There was an instance were I met, talked and took a picture with of one the cast from *Fangasm*, Paul Perkins. I saw and wanted to meet another cast member, Andrew Duvall, but he sped away like man on a mission. Our friend also contemplated for a while whether or not she wanted to get Adrian Paul's autograph as we staked out his autograph line. Later on, I had also had a change to briefly talk, meet and took pictures with the cast of fan-film *Star Trek: Renegade* which I've heard about for some time.

For the rest of day, our group was wandering the vendor aisles looking at merchandise, taking many pictures of the many cosplayers and having fun. By being there for only Saturday, we didn't plan on going to many of the interesting panels that were offered that day. Time permitting, we would have.

All in all, Comikaze was a really good convention to attend. Thank the "Lords of Kobol" that it isn't as packed and crazy as the more popular San Diego Comic Convention. I would recommend this convention for novice conventioneer and well as the seasoned. Comikaze was not crowded, it was very well organized, many of guest were approachable and it had a fun, festive atmosphere. Next year—most likely. ❖ **Ed Gomez**

Paul Perkins of Fangasm and myself. Photo by T. Brillo

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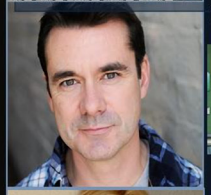
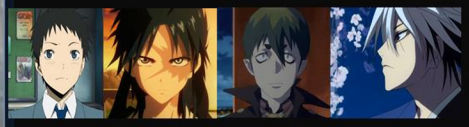
Special Guests

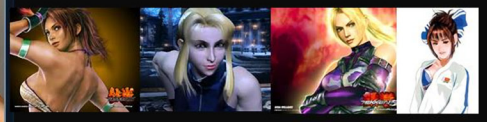
Michael Champion: Illustrator



Darrel Guilbeau: Voice Actor



Lisle Wilkerson: Voice Actress



Chris Cason: Voice Actor

- Speakers and Lectures
- Panels and workshops
- Costume Contest
- Live action Pokémon and Yukio Battles
- Games
- Anime Viewing Room
- Artist ally
- Dealer rooms
- Speed friends Friday night
- Ice cream social Friday night
- Valentines day dance Friday night
- Rave Saturday night
- Talent Show Saturday
- Improve Saturday
- Lock-in Friday and Saturday night
- Cosplay Saturday and Sunday
- Art contest on site judging Saturday and Sunday
- Displays of all sorts on going

More Special Guests

R.J Woods

Steam engine Intrepid

Richie Branson

Aaron Pabon

EVC Ending the Vicious Cycle

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Pokémon® ORIGINS

Pocket Monsters: The Origin
(Pokémon Origins)
ポケットモンスター THE ORIGIN
TV • October 2 - November 22, 201
OLM • Production I.G. • XEBEC

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pokémon_Origins
www.pokemon.co.jp/ex/origin/

Director: Kawasaki, Itsuro
Kuroda, Yukio
Takahashi, Hideya
Tomiyasu, Daiki
Music: Kageyama, Shota
Hayama, Hiroaki

Cast:
Red = Takeuchi, Junko
Green = Eguchi, Takuya
Professor Orchid = Mori, Katsuji

An anime that has come out of no where and has surprised many is *Pokémon Origins*. The story takes place when the Pokémon Red and Blue game came out or Japan's version, *Pocket Monsters Red and Green*. It is during when the player starts the game from the original first two versions with the exact same scenarios. Even at the start of the episode it is like you are playing the game. For some it brings back memories when they played the game and for others to see the origins of the *Pokémon* story.

It begins when the main character, Red, gets news to go to Professor Oak's lab to pick his starter Pokémon. As Red runs towards the lab, he runs into his rival, Green, who also was contacted for the same reason. Professor Oak introduces them to their pokedex and the 3 starter Pokémon that will be with them on their journey: Charmander, Bulbasaur and Squirtle. Red was given the first opportunity and chose Charmander while Green chose Squirtle. Professor Oak gives them their mission and his dream goal—to have a complete guide of all the Pokémon in the Kanto region. The two accept the challenge and started off on their separate journeys.

This anime is only 4 episodes long and shows the main plots: Lavender Town, Fighting Giovanni, Battle the Pokémon Champion and Capturing Mewtwo. There is small addition to the story that correlates to the current Pokémon X and Pokémon Y game that gives the origin of the Mega Stones.

This brings back nostalgia about playing the original game for the first time. If you get a chance to watch this anime, try also playing the original game. If you have a Nintendo DS Lite, play Pokémon Fire Red or Leaf Green. These two games are a remake of the original Pokémon Red and Blue. So, head out to start your adventure and remember that you "Gotta Catch 'Em All!" ❖ **Dragon Master Draco**

POKÉMON
THE SERIES
XY
Satoshi, Serena, Eureka & Citron

Since Pokémon X and Pokémon Y game for the Nintendo 3DS came out this past October 2013, the new *Pokémon* story from the Kalos region is about to air in America soon. Cartoon Network has shown only the first two episodes of *Pokémon XY* as a preview with the *Pokémon* movie of Mewtwo in his Mega Evolution form and the laboratory created pokémon, Genesect. It was a great move of Cartoon Network to show an hour preview of the new *Pokémon* and the new ability of Mega Evolution which is in the current game. This will make the *Pokémon* fans; wait in anticipation of the new fights, style and moves from the Kalos region.

Satoshi (Ash in the American version) has started his new journey and still pursuing his dream of being a Pokémon Master with his starter pokémon, Pikachu. Since Satoshi has moved to the Kalos region, so does the comedy trio: Musashi, Kojirō and Meowth of Team Rocket. They are still trying to complete "Plan A" since the Kanto region—capturing Pikachu and strong pokémon for Team Rocket. Will Team Rocket finally achieve their goal or continue to fly into the sky when they fail? It is going to be amusing to see what they do to try to achieve their goal.

Since Satoshi always travels with companions he is joined by three new characters: Citron, Eureka and Serena. Citron is a young scientist who loves to build machines that sometimes goes out of control. Eureka is Citron's enthusiastic little sister that loves playing and meeting new pokémon. Serena is the daughter of a famous Rhyhorn racer from Kanto but has recently moved to Kalos. She starts her journey to find Satoshi who she has met in the past and hopefully remembers her.

With the new series coming soon, what will Satoshi's new team be? When will the new group, "Team Flare" make their appearance? Will Satoshi finally fulfill his dream of winning the Pokémon League and become a Pokémon Master? All we can do right now is to wait for the next season to start. So, get ready for the start of the new adventure and story of Satoshi and Pikachu's travel to the Kalos region. ❖ **Pokémon Trainer Claudia**

Pokémon the Series: XY
ポケットモンスター エックスワイ
TV • October 17, 2013 - Ongoing
OLM • Production I.G. • XEBEC

pokemon.wikia.com/wiki/Pokémon_the_Series:_XY
www.tv-tokyo.co.jp/anime/pokemon_xy/index2.html

Director: Yajima, Tetsuo
Producer: Tajiri, Satoshi
Masuda, Junichi
Sugimori, Ken
Writer: Tomioka, Atsuhiro

Cast:
Satoshi = Matsumoto, Rika
Serena = Makiguchi, Mayuki
Eureka = Ise, Mariya
Citron = Kaji, Yūki

FINAL FANTASY X|X-2
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The Legend of Zelda: A Link Between Worlds (Zelda no Densetsu: Kamigami no Triforce 2)
ゼルダの伝説 神々のトライフォース2
November 22, 2013 (NA)
Nintendo EAD Group No. 3 • Monolith Soft
Nintendo

Platform: 3DS

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Legend_of_Zelda:_A_Link_Between_Worlds
http://zelda.com/link-between-worlds/

Director: Shikata, Hiromasa
Artist: Takahashi, Koji

Rating ESRB: Everyone

THE LEGEND OF ZELDA™

A LINK BETWEEN WORLDS

Legend of Zelda fans rejoice! The true successor to *The Legend of Zelda: A Link to the Past* has come! *The Legend of Zelda: A Link Between Worlds* will take you on a journey that has a great mix of the old and the new style of Zelda gaming. You will be brought back to the same Hyrule as in A Link to the Past but hundreds of years later. The Dark World also returns in the form of a mirror world called Lorule. You must save the descendants of the 7 sages in order to save both worlds from the clutches of evil. Do you have the courage to embark on this perilous adventure?

With Link's new ability in this game, traversing through that dangerous path will be easier. The new ability is to walk along walls in the form of a drawing that allows you to get to difficult places such as cracks and far off ledges. It adds a whole new perspective of gameplay and how to approach solving puzzles. Classic items such as the Hookshot, Boomerang, Bombs, and Pegasus Boots return. However, there is a new system in obtaining weapons. Instead of finding weapons in dungeons, you get to rent them early on in the game. You will be able to fully own them once you have enough money to buy them. What are the perks of owning them instead of renting them? You can upgrade the weapons that you buy and you don't lose them when you are defeated in battle. By being able to rent or buy the weapons early, you can complete dungeons in any order you want. This eliminates the game from being linear and adds variety to exploration. After beating the game once, you get to choose to replay the entire game at a harder difficulty called Hero Mode. The main difference is that you take 4 times more damage than in Normal Mode. It's challenging but it makes it fun to replay the game again with a slightly different ending.

Despite this only being a single player game, there is a streetpass aspect in the form of fighting "Shadow Links". You can set up your file so that every time you streetpass another person who has the game, you have the option to battle their Link in the form of a Shadow Link. This Shadow Link has the same stats as the person you have streetpassed but is controlled by the computer. I thought this was a nifty feature and it doesn't affect the main story at all. There are 50 challenge accomplishments on the different ways you defeat a Shadow Link. If you acquire all 50 challenge accomplishments, you get to fight a surprise challenger.

I can surely say that *The Legend of Zelda: A Link Between Worlds* is the best hand-held Zelda game ever. The art style, level design, and music are all magnificent. The game is a definite 10 out of 10. There's a reason why this game was chosen as the 2013 Game of the Year by Gamespot. The ingenuity is superb. The game also runs at 60 frames per second, enabling you to experience smooth gameplay. If you don't have a 3DS or a 3DS XL, I would recommend you get the Limited Edition Gold 3DS XL version that comes with the game. It might be hard to find but it's worth it. I have one myself and that thing is sweet! Game on! ❖ Sunset Spider

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Console & Desktop Gaming

Winter 2014

Lighting — Final Fantasy XIII

Jan 15

Assassin's Creed Liberation HD
Ubisoft • Ubisoft Sofia
Action • PC

Jan 16

Spellforce 2: Demons of the Past
Nordic Games Publishing • Dreamcatcher Interactive
RPG • PC

Jan 28

Dragon Ball Z: Battle of Z
Namco Bandai • Artdink
Fighting • PS3, PS Vita, XBOX1

Tomb Raider: Definitive Edition
Square Enix • Crystal Dynamics
Action • X360

Feb 4

Fable Anniversary
Microsoft • Lionhead Studios
RPG • X360

Feb 7

Bravely Default Nintendo
Square Enix • Silicon Studio
RPG • 3DS

Feb 11

DanganRonpa: Trigger Happy Havoc
Nippon Ichi Software • Spike Chunsoft
Action • PS Vita

Lightning Returns: Final Fantasy XIII
Square Enix
RPG • PS3, X360

Toukiden: The Age of Demons
Tecmo KOEI • Omega Force
Action • PS Vita

Feb 18

Earth Defense Force 2025
D3 Publisher • Sandlot (JP)
Action • PS3, X360

Plants vs. Zombies: Garden Warfare
Electronic Arts • PopCap Games
Shooter • X360, XBOX1

Feb 21

Donkey Kong Country: Tropical Freeze
Nintendo • Retro Studios, Inc.
Platformer, Action • Wii U

Feb 25

Rayman Legends
Ubisoft • Ubisoft Montpellier
Platformer • PS4, XBOX1

Tales of Symphonia Chronicles
Namco Bandai • Namco Bandai
Compilation, RPG • PS3

Thief
Square Enix • Eidos Studios - Montreal
Adventure • PC, PS3, PS4, X360, XBOX1

Feb 28

LEGO Marvel Super Heroes — Universe in Peril
Warner Bros. Interactive • Traveller's Tales
Action • NDS

Professor Layton and the Azran Legacy Nintendo
Nintendo of America • Level-5
Adventure • 3DS

Mar 4

South Park: The Stick of Truth
Ubisoft • Obsidian Entertainment
RPG • PS3, X360

Mar 11

Atelier Escha & Logy: Alchemist of Dusk Sky
Tecmo Koei • Gust
RPG • PS3

Dark Souls II
Namco Bandai • FromSoftware
Action, RPG • PC, PS3, X360

Titanfall
Electronic Arts • Respawn Entertainment
First Person Shooter • PC, X360, XBOX1

Titanfall (Collector's Edition)
Electronic Arts • Respawn Entertainment
Shooter, First-Person • XBOX1

Mar 14

BlazBlue: Chrono Phantasma
ARC System Works
Fighting • PS3

Mar 18

Final Fantasy X / X-2 HD Remaster
Square Enix • Square
RPG • PS3

Final Fantasy X / X-2 HD Remaster (Limited Edition)
Square Enix • Square
RPG • PS3

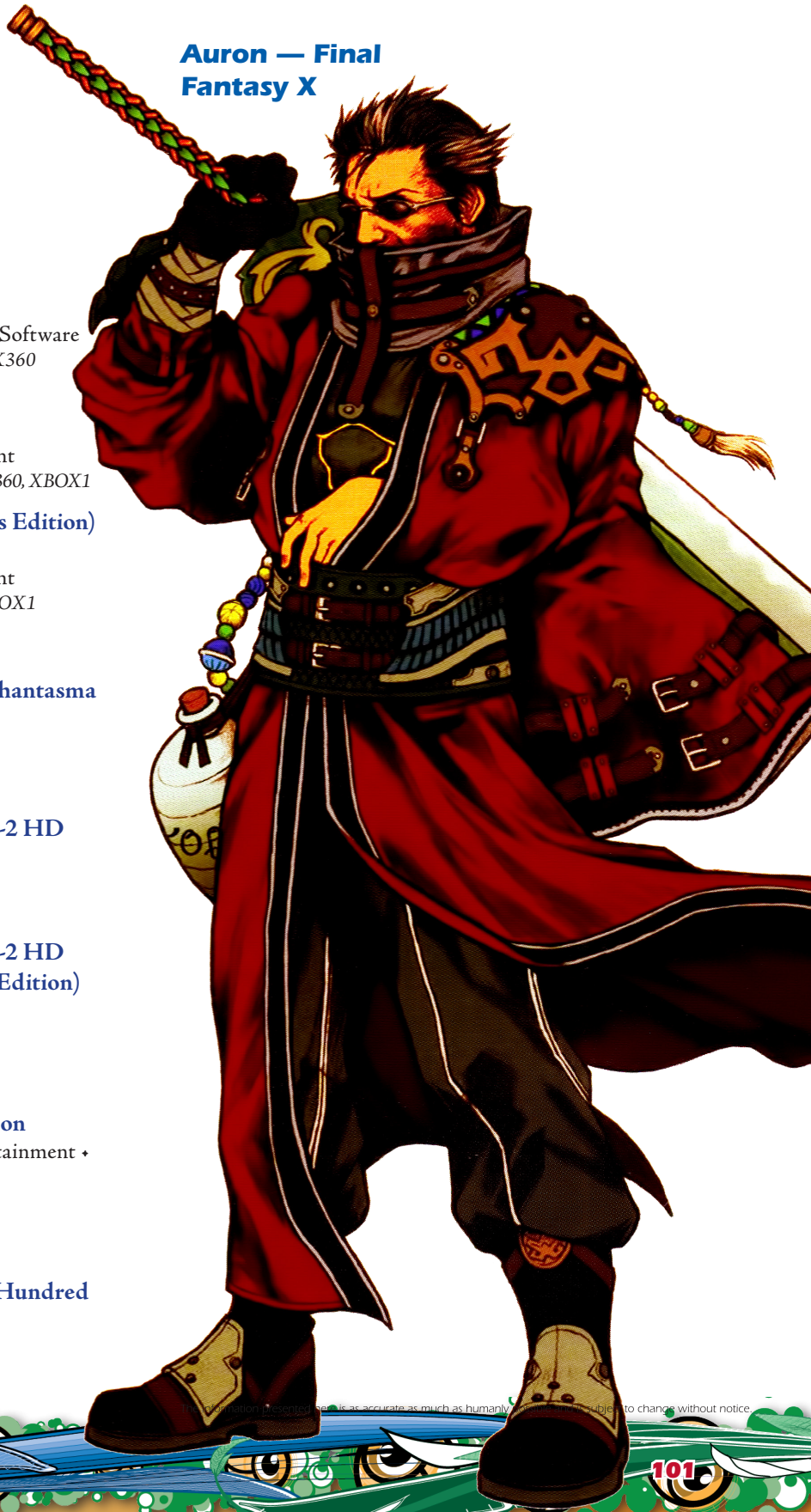
Mar 21

Infamous: Second Son
Sony Computer Entertainment • Sucker Punch
Action • PS4

Mar 25

The Witch and the Hundred Knight
Nippon Ichi Software
Action, RPG • PS3

Auron — Final Fantasy X



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Genki Life
fan Magazine

The quarterly free online fanzine that gives you con-schedules, cosplay, upcoming anime, manga, video games news, reviews and more.

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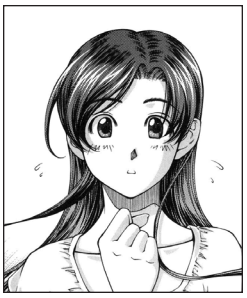
Genki Life Magazine

Goto, Nagi

A high school sophomore from Tokyo, Nagi comes to Okitsushima to see the birth place of his mother, and soon becomes a resident of the island.



Narumi, Shizuku

Shizuku is the first person Nagi met upon landing on the island. When she first met him, she didn't know that Nagi would eventually become a resident of the island, so she felt she was able to play the role of someone unlike herself.

Nagumo, Karen

Nagi first "meets" Karin as he is looking out of the window of his new home and sees her changing her clothes. Loud and opinionated, she is convinced that Nagi is a peeper and a pervert, and tells him repeatedly to "get off this island."

Mitsuragi, Soyogi

Nagi meets Soyogi on the first day of school. When Nagi approaches Shizuku and starts talking casually to her, he is told by Soyogi to keep away from her.

Umi no Misaki

by

Fumizuki, Kō (文月 晃)

Nagi Goto, a high school student, decided to move to his deceased mother's home because his father has to work overseas, Okitsushima. On his first day there, he meets Shizuku who showed him around the island. There was a place on the island that Nagi always wanted to see, "Umi no Misaki," so she showed him the place. After a life-threatening accident, Nagi finally moved into his parent's home. Later on, he learns there much more to the island, the people and his own fate.

Here's a preview of the first. Be sure to support the author.

These pages are meant to read in spreads, side by side. The story flow will be off, if read page by individual page.

Umi no Misaki
(Messenger of the Sea)
海の御先
Hakusensha, Young Animal
September 2007 - Present, 14 Volumes

manga.wikia.com/wiki/Umi_no_Misaki

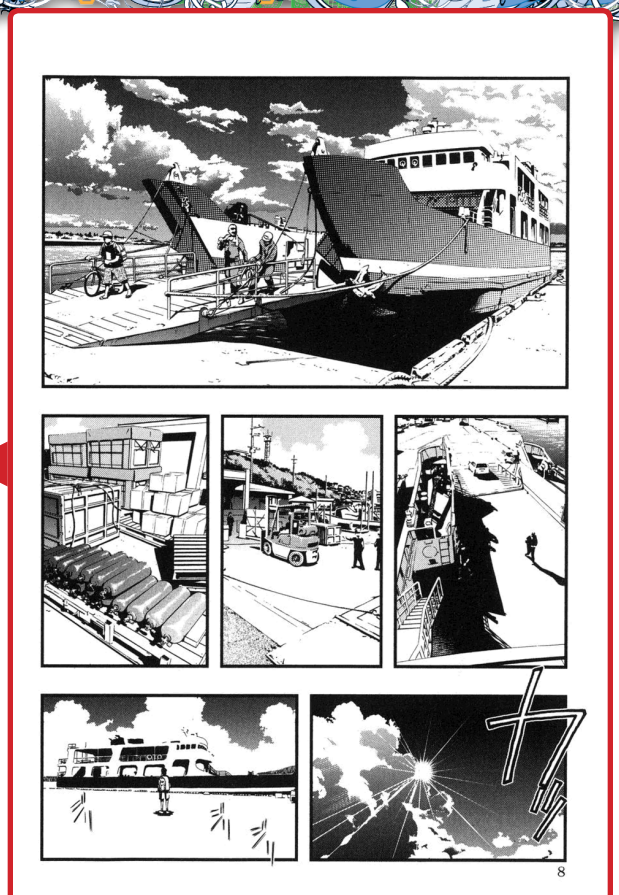
Author: Fumizuki, Kō

Genre: Comedy, Ecchi, Harem, Mature, Romance, Seinen
Format: Softcover/Manga
Price: ¥505 MSRP each volume

Start with top right and end with bottom left. Reading is done the same direction.

Umi no Misaki

IT'S...
SO HOT...
WOAH. THE WATER IS SO CLEAR.
...I KNEW IT WOULD BE HOT, BUT...
ENOUGH TO MAKE MY SKIN HURT...
TINGLE TINGLE TINGLE
I CAN'T BELIEVE I AM ACTUALLY HERE...
9



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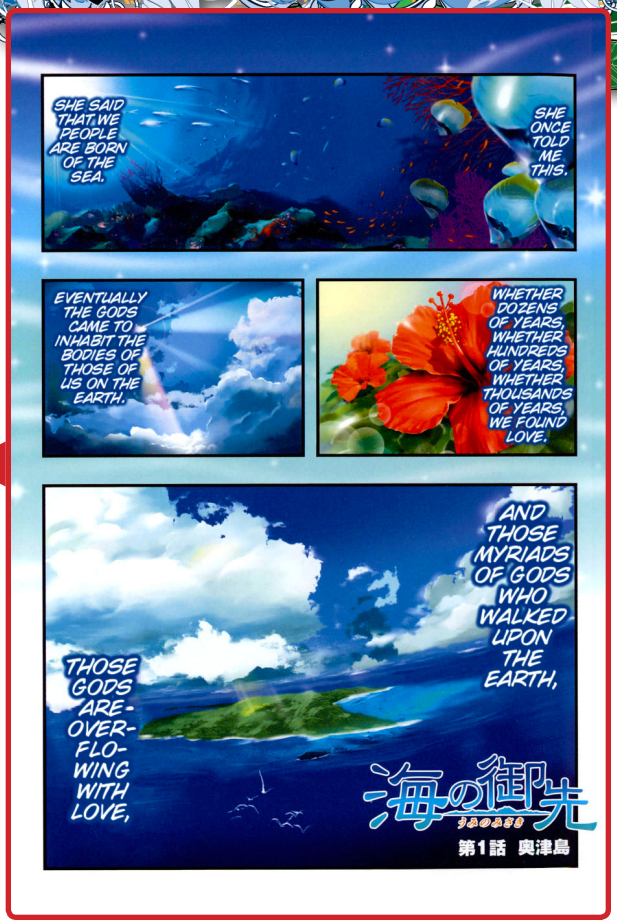
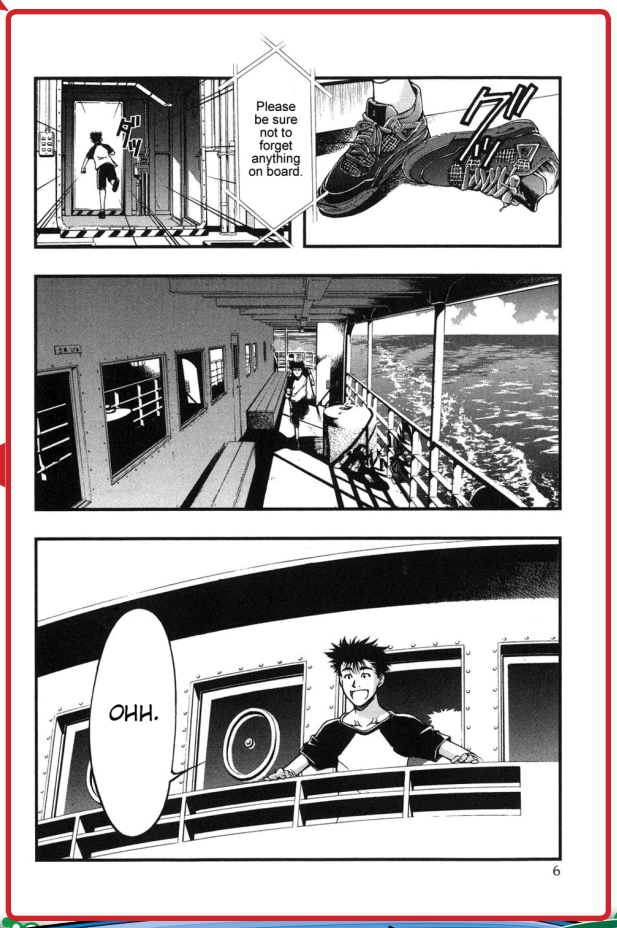

SHE SAID THAT WE PEOPLE ARE BORN OF THE SEA.
SHE ONCE TOLD ME THIS.
EVENTUALLY THE GODS CAME TO INHABIT THE BODIES OF THOSE OF US ON THE EARTH.
WHETHER DOZENS OF YEARS, WHETHER HUNDREDS OF YEARS, WHETHER THOUSANDS OF YEARS, WE FOUND LOVE.
THOSE GODS ARE-OVER-FLO-WING WITH LOVE,
AND THOSE MYRIADS OF GODS WHO WALKED UPON THE EARTH,
海の御先
第1話 奥津島



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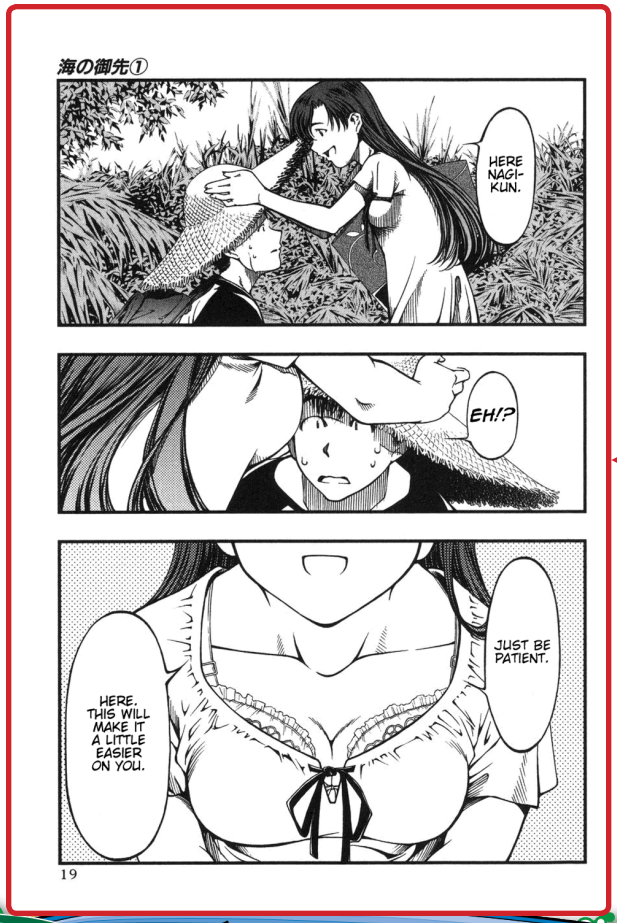

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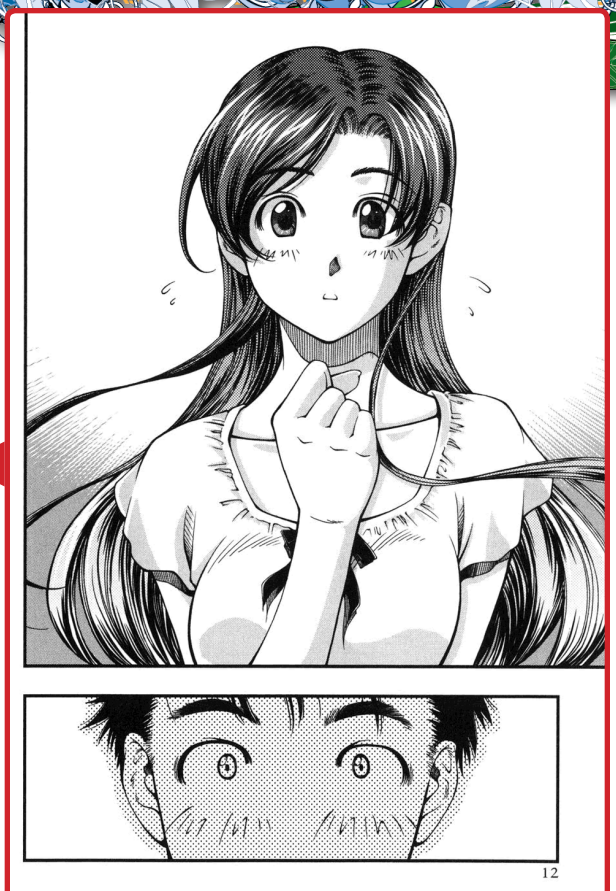

海の御先①
IT'S SOMETHING I HAVE ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE.
WELL, IF YOU'D LIKE, I CAN TAKE YOU THERE.
OHH.
THEN MAYBE I WILL ASK YOU TO DO THAT.
I SEE.
THERE ARE NO FENCES, SO IF YOU AREN'T FAMILIAR WITH THE AREA, IT IS PRETTY DANGEROUS.
15

EH!!? WOW, YOU'RE FROM THE CITY!
TOKYO.
WHERE ARE YOU FROM?
?! STARE
EH!?
THIS PLACE ...
DO YOU KNOW IT?
CAN I ASK YOU? I WANT TO SEE THIS PLACE.
HM?
SOUTHERN ISLAND RESORT OKITSUSHIMA
YOU CAME ALL THE WAY FROM TOKYO JUST TO SEE UMI NO MISAKI?
HEHE
THERE REALLY ISN'T ANYTHING THERE...
14

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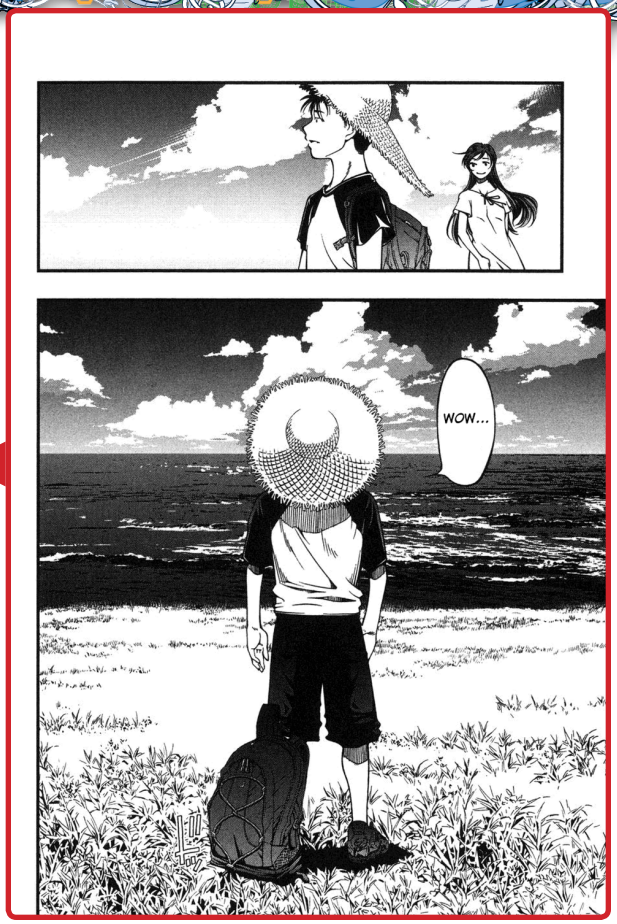
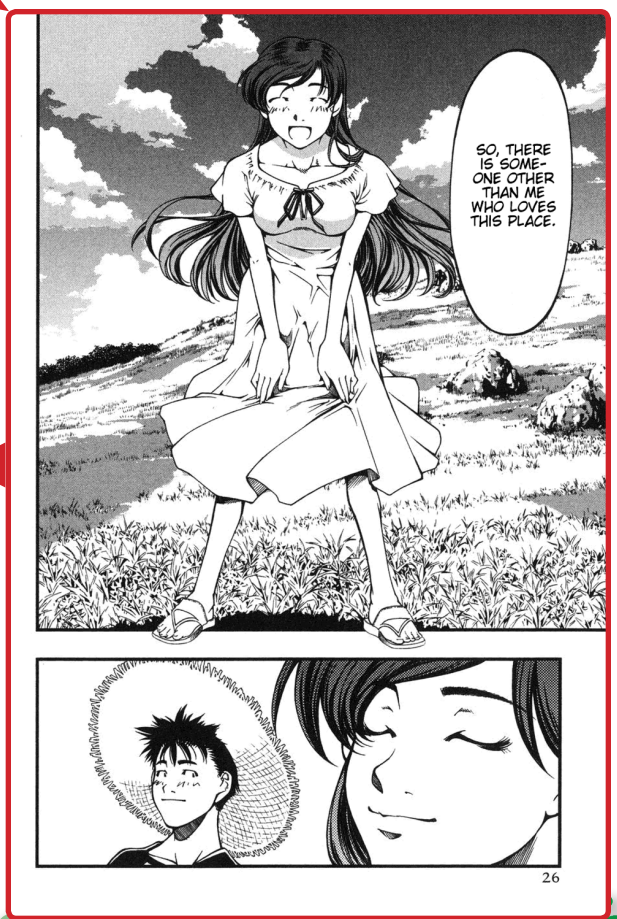
Umi no Misaki

海の御先①
I LOVE IT...
YEAH ...
DO YOU LIKE IT?
EVEN THE LOCALS DON'T COME HERE.
IT WAS A 15 HOUR BOAT RIDE.
AHH. I'M GLAD I CAME.
I WAS THE SAME. WHEN I FIRST SAW THIS SCENERY I LOVED IT.
25





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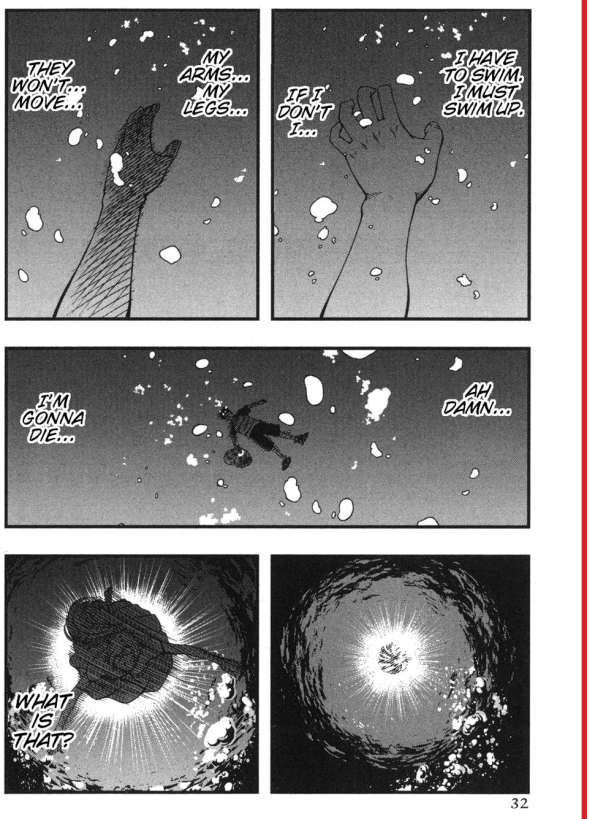

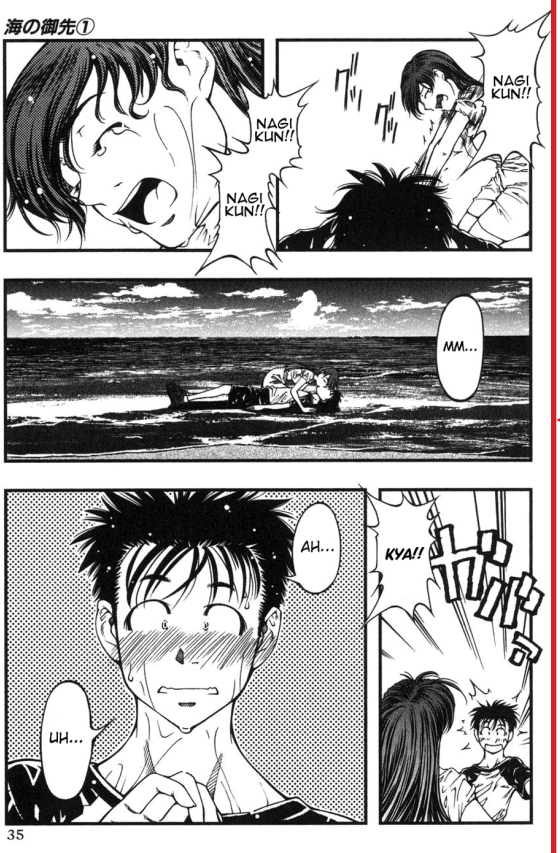

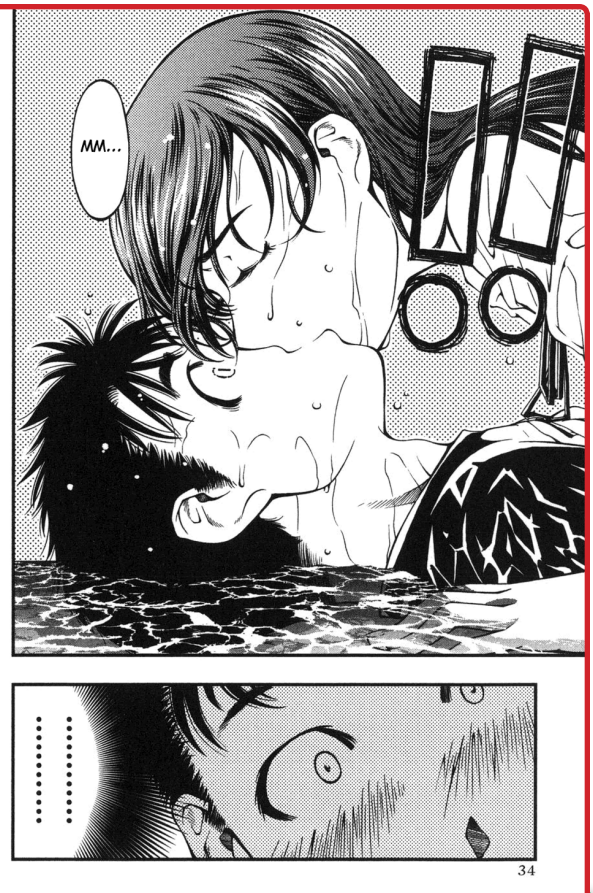

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This concludes our preview of
Umi no Misaki

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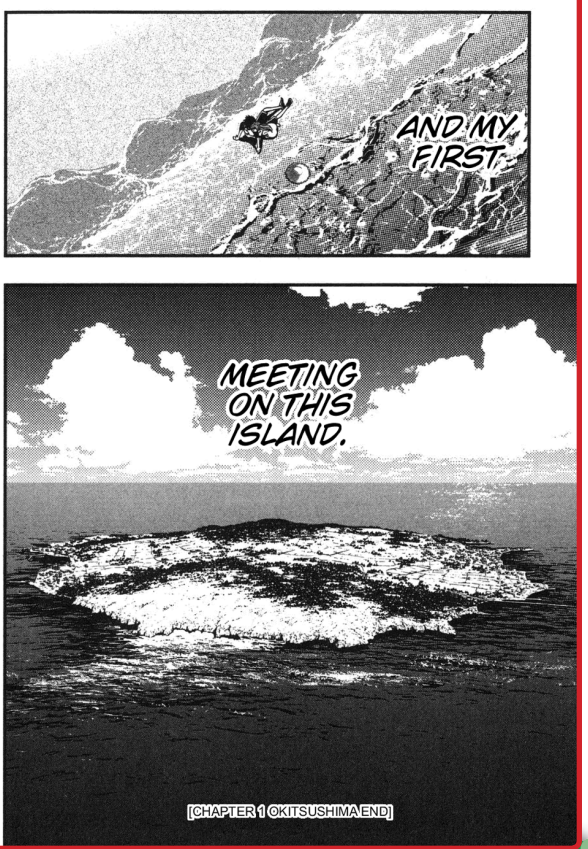

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